Volume 13 JANUARY 1939 Number 5

WILSON BULLETIN

FOR LIBRARIANS

Ways to Attract More Readers
Marilla Waite Freeman

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J. H. Shera

Descriptive Calendar of Displays
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Departments: THE ROVING EYE—THE MONTH AT RANDOM JUNIOR LIBRARIANS SECTION SCHOOL LIBRARIES — A.L.A. NOTES — LITERARY CALENDAR—CROW'S NEST- CURRENT REFERENCE BOOKS

ical Sketches of E. B. White, Newton Arvin and
ina Vallentin

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The Literary Calendar

— 1938 —

NOVEMBER

(Continued from the December Publication)

November 14. Miss Dorothy Thompson, special writer for the New York Herald Tribune, received the 1938 American Woman's Association award for eminent achievement, at the annual Friendship dinner held at the Woman's Club in New York City.

November 14. Lord Tweedsmuir, Canada's Governor-General, (who writes under literary, not real name, John Buchan) confessed, in an address delivered in Ottawa, Ont., that he had a terrible weight on his conscience "on the score of a number of book." He admitted that he had made prefaces, indexes, had owned a paper, and had been printer, publisher, writer, and reviewer, and that he had "had written far too many books." "Like," he added, "the written word is one of the greatest things in the world. It provides a stable foothold for the shifting sands on which we stand today."

November 15. The editors of the Colophon announced that with the next issue for 1939 this luxurious quarterly will be called New Graphic Series and will return to its original form.

November 16. Plans for the new Book Prevue, an international exchange of information on publishing, are under way. The monthly will contain a listing of titles and synopses to speed the sale and purchase of pre publication translation rights, a section on bestseller reprints, and a department on the publishing of plays and projects of both authors and publishers. Alfred C. Mechlin is the editor.

November 16. Carl Van Doren, in writing his Franklin Biography to be published in present day Germany, informed the German publisher who called him on language rights, and gave the book, that he had called German publishing firms in Holland; it will be issued in translation for the German language public outside the Reich.

November 16. Mark Sullivan returned to his home town, West Chester, Pa., to regain the "common touch" by closing up the newspaper game where he left it in 1899, his next year in the profession, and got a tumultuous reception of no small proportion.

November 16. Charles Metz was appointed editor of the New York Times, to succeed Lt. John H. Finley who becomes Editor Emeritus at the age of 78. Mr. Metz joined the Times in 1931; he has been a frequent contributor to literary journals and is the author of The Great American Bandwagon (1928) and The Dry Decade (1931).

November 21. [illegible] that members of the Book-of-the-Month Club of America have pledged themselves [illegible] with any book-[illegible] or publishers of Germany or to purchase any [illegible] the works of German Nazi writers.

November 22. In answer to the many [illegible] of the anti-Semitic speech that Franklin [illegible] made before the Constitutional [illegible], Carl Van Doren, author of the present Franklin Biography, has refuted [illegible] charges. First, the journal [illegible] which the speech is [illegible] is not anti-Semitic; second, [illegible], as stated, [illegible] Institute, and [illegible] the Jewish race [illegible] contribution to [illegible] Palestina.

November 24. [illegible] Hemingway, arriving [illegible] Spain, where he has been [illegible] the Spanish war, [illegible] that the Loyalists would [illegible] supplies.

November 24. [illegible] George Bernard Shaw, in a [illegible] that the League of Nations [illegible] Hitler and Mussolini, [illegible] the hope of relieving [illegible] present period is apparently [illegible] the wave of the immediate [illegible] British catalog [illegible] the things of our [illegible] . . . we [illegible] the question with [illegible] attitude of moral [illegible] the smallest [illegible]

DECEMBER

December 1. [illegible] French author and journalist, was elected to the French Academy to succeed the late Joseph Caillaux. Strangely enough, he has never written a book [illegible] except in collaboration with his brother Jean, three years [illegible] and they have made an extensive study of French life and culture. Their Dingley l'Illustre [illegible] won the Goncourt Prize in 1909, and in 1929 they received jointly the Academy's Grand Prix de Literature.

December 5. Thurman W. Arnold's Folklore of Capitalism was the best-seller among the books published from September 1, 1937 to September 1, 1938, in a recent membership poll conducted by the Cooperative Book Club.

December 6. Paul Y. Anderson, Washington correspondent since 1924, died at the Capital, after what is believed to have been a suicidal attempt. The forty-five year old jour-

Newton Arvin

THE long iniated opinion that literary criticism which emanates from the ivied halls of colleges and universities must, *ipso facto*, concern itself with some new light on the identities of Chaucer's Canterbury pilgrims, Spenser's experimentation with a nine-pentameter, etc., has, within the last few years, undergone considerable blasting. The writings of Newton Arvin, eminent critic, liberal, and professor of American literature at Smith College, is an excellent case in point.

Newton Arvin was born in Nolpanoes, Ind., on August 23, 1900, the son of Frederic Newton and Jessie (Hawkins) Arvin. He attended public schools and high school in Indiana and then enrolled at Harvard, where he was awarded one of the Detmar prizes for general excellence in studies and at his graduation in 1921 (summa cum laude) he was first honor at honors in English. [illegible] he was the recipient of a Sheldon traveling fellowship.

For a part of the [illegible] Mr. Arvin taught English at the [illegible] School in Detroit. Since 1922, except for occasional intervals, he has been a member of the Smith College faculty, [illegible] English, becoming associate professor in 1933. From October 1938 until May 1939 he served as associate editor of the *Yale Review*; and during the fall of 1938 and the spring of 1939 he was granted a leave of absence to accept a Guggenheim fellowship. After his return to active part in the League of American Writers' first congress, held in April 1939, he was instrumental in the formation of this organization and was a speaker at the second Congress, June 1937.

After a scholarly exposition of the Reverend Michael Taylor's [illegible] the manuscript of Hawthorne's journals from which Mrs. Hawthorne, some years after her husband's death, had prepared a volume that was proved not only of petty literary detail but of [illegible] which were a little too naked for the prudish of [illegible] might remember the general impression that Hawthorne was "[illegible]." Mr. Arvin published in 1929, [illegible] *Hawthorne* [illegible] *Hawthorne and Melville*. There is that some years appeared his life of Hawthorne, a study [illegible] which he [illegible] the literary historian [illegible] the personal wealth of Hawthorne [illegible]. For Mr. Arvin's [illegible] "[illegible] disguised [illegible] [illegible] that by majority [illegible] as a writer [illegible] much sympathy with human [illegible] "tangible forms" but who had "[illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] Mr. Arvin continues.

[illegible] Hawthorne [illegible] in his death, [illegible] which the [illegible] into the right rela-

[illegible] Hawthorne [illegible] tragedy [illegible] in the [illegible]

[illegible] life of [illegible] made in his [illegible] English poets [illegible] poetic parts [illegible] than [illegible] politically, [illegible]

[illegible] of the [illegible] Hawthorne [illegible] the writers [illegible] the clearer [illegible] step in [illegible] and contemporary [illegible] the same interest [illegible] in scan- [illegible] artists in the [illegible] there may [illegible] attitude may [illegible]

[illegible] Miss Harrison [illegible] Northampton, [illegible] at South occupy [illegible] nevertheless, [illegible] periodicals as [illegible] and the *New* [illegible] "pretty hard [illegible] bleak [illegible] understate- [illegible] Arvin leads [illegible] shorts are there and that he has [illegible] them under his [illegible]

E. B. White

"EVERY writer [illegible] ennui," said one of [illegible] "Notes & Comment" items in the New [illegible] (June 1931), "knows that he [illegible] to be not the [illegible] occasional [illegible] words that [illegible] swift as [illegible]." This [illegible] that Mr. Coolidge as a [illegible] his job [illegible] counting words and let him [illegible] perhaps the best description [illegible] do when E. B. White [illegible] to the manipulate [illegible]

Elwyn Brooks White [illegible] friends) was born in Mount Vernon, N. Y., the son of Samuel T. [illegible] White [illegible]

[illegible] to Cornell University, where [illegible]

[illegible]

Volume 13 Number 5

WILSON BULLETIN
FOR LIBRARIANS

January 1939

What Can We Do Today to Attract More Readers?

By Marilla Waite Freeman *

THE greatest hope for an answer to this burning question lies in the fact that the question is asked. At least we are aware that having worked up a 25 to 35 per cent library registration among our local population we can no longer rest complacently upon our oars, indifferent to the fate of the remaining 65 to 75 per cent. How quickly would Dr. George Gallup, of the Institute of Public Opinion, desert a candidate who polled only such a score as ours: "While 55.2 per cent," says he, "is several points below the 62.5," etc., "it is still a substanial indorsement."

Such an indorsement can be earned by our libraries only when we realize that the minimum floor of our efforts must be at least the 51 population per cent of library users which will carry us safely past the majority line, while our maximum ceiling would stretch up to high heaven to let in every man, woman, and reading-age child. And this not for the sake of figures as such, though they do speak; but for the assurance that we are offering and making known cultural, spiritual, recreational, practical services which will make the library the most indispensable factor in community life; recognized as such to the point of liberal, adequate financial support.

We know then that we need more readers. And what can we do; not yesterday, nor tomorrow, but today; not to constrain nor to compel, but to *attract*? Thus is our problem stated.

The Modern Tempo

Well, we know we have the goods, and our job is to tell the world. But first perhaps, like any other merchant today, we have to do a bit of inside streamlining of our stock, our building, ourselves. Is our stock 1938 in style and subject matter? Is it displayed attractively? Does our building have plenty of arrows pointing the way in and about? Are our display windows so alluring that they pull the passer-by up the marble steps? And once inside, does he, to borrow the slogan of a local bookshop, "feel our welcome"? Is the process of registration made so quick, easy and painless that the surprised newcomer really goes home promptly with a book like the one he saw in the window under his arm? Have we thought that we may not always best serve our day and generation by so many *titles*, as by enough *copies* of the best and most wanted, ready when they *are* wanted? For example, the one our man saw in the window? Can our pride in acquisition yield to zeal of service? Can we visualize for each book purchased its specific reader or group of readers? and for every potential reader his book?

Are our minds tuned to 1938 tempo, aware of 1938 needs and pressures? Are we still all majoring in literature and French or do we know that the

* Librarian of the Main Library, Cleveland Public Library. Paper presented at the Ohio Valley Regional Library Conference, Cincinnati, October 21, 1938.

world is combustible and we'd better learn how to handle the fire? Do we know that as back in other revolutionary days it is the broadsides, the pamphlets, the periodicals, the news sheets that mold public opinion, and win or lose the war? Do our question answerers and reference workers begin with these vital current aids and work back to the solid volumes which give background to today's problems? Or do they begin with the solid background and never get down to today's last word?

Forgive this barrage of questions, but we may as well recognize that the interrogation point is today's favorite punctuation mark; turned on us, if we do not turn it on ourselves.

How we wish we knew all the answers to these questions so easy to fire. Cleveland is just as vulnerable to them as any other library center. But since it is the center I happen to know best at the moment, perhaps I should mention some of the efforts, sporadic or continuous, which we have made to find answers; hoping by this means to draw out the more fruitful experiences of others.

Our proportion of registrants to population in the Cleveland Public Library is 34.77 per cent. How far that falls below the 51 per cent majority minimum, we realize only too sadly.

Streamlining the Stock

First, in the attempt to streamline our stock, we have sent to our new storage annex, or to our top-floor reservoir, much of our less used material, arranged for ready access on call. In our Main Library divisions themselves, we have placed the less used material in the upper half of our two-floor stacks, have labeled clearly and made freely open to the public the books in the lower stack; and have placed around the walls of the room and on floor cases, with plenty of attractive signs, the most constantly and currently desired material. Thus, as one enters the History, Travel and Biography Division, one is confronted by wall or floor cases with such captions as *What Next in World Affairs? Travel —The Stamp of Experience; Other People's Lives.* Halfway down the room, a table covered with travel folders for free distribution, from railway, airway, steamship companies, halts the visitor to inquire about our Travel Bureau service. Brilliantly colored travel posters, hung along the railing of the stack balcony, whet one's curiosity to the reading point on the historical background and current situation of the countries pictured.

An open archway leads into the affiliated division of the social sciences, where the economics, laws, labor and other social problems of our own and other countries are featured. Here was displayed the large collection of pamphlets on public affairs, gathered and routed to libraries by the U.S. Office of Education and the Public Affairs Committee. Hanging just inside the entrance to this and other divisions, a small permanent pamphlet holder calls attention to such vital last-word booklets as those of the Headline series, the Foreign Policy Association, and the International Pamphlets of the Labor Research Association, ready to borrow for home reading. Strawboard covers with a vivid pamphlet cover pasted on them protect the circulating copies.

Thru another open doorway the Business Information Bureau displays such wall-bulletin and stack end captions as *How's Business.' Security Markets; Modern Advertising and Selling; Jobs and Careers.* This is the library's, and increasingly the city's, nerve center for the business men and the workers groups of Cleveland.

Signs with arrows, lettered on the marble walls opposite the elevators on all floors, point the way to the various divisions, and lighted exhibits behind glass in the corridor walls lure the visitor along.

Making Registration Easy

Just outside the library at the right, our open-air reading room occupies, "when weather permits," a small green park space between the Main Library and the Cleveland Plain Dealer building. This modest outdoor annex displays invitations to come into the library itself; to register for a borrower's card; to visit the Readers' Adviser's bookroom. As the new potential reader thus stream-

lined into the building passes one of the library's outside display windows, he reads the further invitation always featured there, no matter what the current exhibit—

The Public Library is *Yours*
Come in
Make free use of its services:
Borrow its books
A library card may be had at the Registration Desk without delay and without charge.

As he enters the building, the psychology of approach draws him toward the right to the registration room. The Library keeps its "without delay" promise by pausing only to verify by directory, the name and address which he writes on his application blank; accepts for personal identification anything from his car-pass holder to the tattooed autograph for which a lake sailor rolls up his sleeve; and with card in hand, he is directed thru another open doorway to Popular Library, where a friendly Readers' Adviser has received a buzz from the registration desk, and is ready to meet his needs or to direct him further. As the Popular Library is not only the fiction division but also a sort of open-shelf sample room for books on all subjects, the new borrower often makes his first selection there, or is drawn to other parts of the building by signs which indicate, for example, that more books on *Science and Work* may be found in the Science and Technology Division on the second floor. . . .

Passing again into the main lobby our new borrower finds himself confronted with lighted directory boards which point his way about the building; a living directory, the Information Desk hostess; an attractive placard inquiring

WHAT IS YOUR GOAL?
Personality?
Education?
Recreation?

A READING PLAN
Will help you
toward
Your Chosen Goal
Ask at the
Readers' Adviser's Bookroom

On a bulletin board just inside the entrance to the Library itself, are displayed under the permanent caption *Interesting things to see, hear and do,* notices of forums, lectures, discussion groups, organized hiking, nature-trail, bird-walk groups, concerts, dramatic and motion picture productions, museum and other exhibitions, including our own exhibits on all floors of the library. On each notice or poster the library suggests, in red, a book or two by the lecturer or on the subject publicized, with the location of the divisions in which such material may be found.

In some such ways as these the library streamlines itself, its resources, its relation to outside activities, its staff. For the staff takes part in and is part of the streamlining. It devises the slogans, plans the bulletin boards, visits its own readers' advisers, attends the night classes, lectures, concerts, plays which its bulletins feature, takes part in the discussion groups, forms some of its own. The four days' Staff Institute of the Cleveland Public Library Staff Association last April was an eye-opener to all who attended and especially to all who took part in it.

Luncheon and evening meetings of organizations such as the Foreign Affairs Council, the Adult Education Association, Consumers' League, Engineering Society and many others are attended by representative staff members of divisions directly concerned. One of our assistants in the History Division is especially alert to international affairs; he follows and cooperates closely with the meetings or movements in his particular line.

Reaching the Great Unreached

After we have thus streamlined our building, our stock, ourselves, and in the process have drawn in many a passerby to our sphere of influence, how are we still, in Miss Lutie Stearns' memorable phrase, to reach the great unreached?

As a first try, we might do worse than to emulate the Ohio congressman whom Paul Mallon, quoted by Paul Bixler,[1] reports as watching the birth notices in his district and sending young parents a form letter reading something like this:

[1] Paul Bixler, "Uncle Sam's Best Sellers," *Saturday Review of Literature.* May 28, 1938.

"Dear Friends: I have just learned of the arrival of a new visitor in your home and take this opportunity of extending my congratulations. I trust you will find the enclosed booklet, *Infant Care,* of interest and help. . . ."

As a matter of fact, this 138 page, ten-cent publication of the U.S. Children's Bureau, is one of the most valuable and immediately useful gifts that young parents can receive, and when accompanied by an attractive library reading-list on child care and training, should draw and grapple parent to library as with hooks of steel. If names and addresses of new or prospective mothers, with definite request for the pamphlets desired, are sent by the library to the U.S. Children's Bureau, Washington, copies of its *Prenatal Care, Infant Care, The Child from 1 6,* and other valuable publications, will promptly be sent direct from Bureau to mother.

The library already receives so many anxious questions about children, from naming to managing them, that it should recognize this clue to a prime interest of humanity, and cast out its lines accordingly. The Youngstown Public Library has recognized this universal appeal by the establishment of its Mothers' Room. It follows birth records, sends a special message and invitation to the parents, and reports a Mothers' Room circulation increase from 200 per month to 2,000 in the three years since the room was opened.

Death as well as birth records should be followed by the watchful library; "What had he we now should have?" being the not ghoulish but vital question. True, we should not have waited for the obituary notice to remind us of the book collection or substantial funds which should have been given or bequeathed to the library, but if we can repair this error thru the family which remains, we may win a host of new friends. The suggestion that a memorial take the form of a permanent book fund, however small, with annual purchases from accumulated interest, and a memorial book plate distinguishing all additions wherever classified, seems in practice to result in recurring contributions to the fund from interested friends or relatives, in attracting new memorials from other families, and in making library users of the families themselves and of the groups to which they belong.

Group Service

"Groups"—there is a key word for our future efforts to attract more readers. Never forgetting that the individual is our fundamental unit, nor that in the individual we reach the leader; we may nevertheless turn to our advantage the world trend toward organization. We must cultivate the extrovert side of our own natures; learn to know the innumerable groups in our own city. Not only the women's clubs and parent-teachers, but workers and trade associations, conference groups of all types, semi-foreign groups not yet wholly assimilated to their adopted country. Always there is a way to tie the library's resources with whatever activity is in the making.

From a hurried reader rushing to attend a meeting of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union one of our readers' advisers especially interested in adult education extension activities learned that a new educational committee of this union was planning to hold a meeting the following week. Telephoning headquarters to explain that the library was desirous of offering its facilities, the Readers' Adviser was accepted as a visitor at the first meeting and invited to speak at the next. Many members called at her office. Lists were prepared, cards taken out, and permanently friendly relationships established between the library and the Garment Workers.

The same adviser, always on the prowl for new readers—and shouldn't we all be? no matter where?—recently met several members of a purely social Slovenian Club. She discovered they had had a vague idea for a long time of doing something worth while in their club—studying current events or current literature, but had no notion how to go about organizing such a discussion group. That of course was easily mended.

The same enthusiast is meeting with fifty-five leaders of various union workers groups, representing a membership

of over 5,000, to help them plan their educational programs and to tell them how the library can serve them. Many of the members are of foreign birth; books in foreign languages will be much in demand; additional group station libraries will be needed. We shall need more books, more money; but here are the more readers. Let us hope the latter will attract the former to us.

Group service does work in that reciprocal fashion sometimes. The consultant service of our Business Information Bureau to trade associations and other business groups has brought our bread back upon the waters many times, sometimes spectacularly, in library budget tax-fund emergencies, and often quietly in gifts of valuable material, reciprocal services, and even cash.

Thru the cooperation of the Girl Scouts, who bring in requests for books from Shut-Ins, and carry the books back to them, an extensive Shut-In service, launched by our Stations Department, and carried on thru the Branch Department, is reaching a considerable group of readers whom under ordinary circumstances we might think among the unreachable. The remedial reading groups[2] under the School Department touch one class of the great unreached—the slow-learning—those for whom reading is difficult, and gradually bring them into the fold.

A friendly interchange was that of the Boy Scouts of Cleveland, who on a given April day, each troop taking its own neighborhood districts, made a house to house delivery of some 35,000 leaflets bearing "A Message from the Cleveland Public Library." Topped by an attractive sketch of the friendly Main Library entrance, the message begins "You are cordially invited to make use of the Cleveland Public Library. The library has books for all tastes and every member of the family. Books and service are free to all residents of Cleveland. You are urged to make yourself acquainted with the many services that the Library maintains for your use and enjoyment." Inside under such captions as "The Library Offers You," "How to Get a Library Card," "Special Services," is suggestive information on these points and a list of addresses and library hours of the main and all branch libraries.

[2] Jean C. Roos, "Remedial Reading and the Librarian," *New York Libraries*, February 1938.

Library Week

A successful Library Week, with its slogan "Know Your Branch Library" was the outcome last February of plans made by the Branch Publicity Committee, for a city-wide campaign emphasizing branch library service. Newpapers, radio stations, the Street Railway Company, local churches, shops and restaurants all cooperated, and one of the largest banks in the city gave free use of its huge display space on the busiest corner of the city. As a result many citizens for the first time became branch conscious and branch users.

The idea of an office-to-office canvass of our downtown big buildings, banks, and industrial establishments is one which intrigues our Main Library, but is not easy of execution. Perhaps a preliminary study of the classified directory in the back of our telephone books would help us. This is group work again—to check off with our list of library-card holders, which accountants, architects, beauty parlor experts, engineers, tool-makers, already know and use our library, and then go for the rest, in person, by mail, or at their professional or trade meetings. Our Business Information Bureau already does much of this, especially thru group meetings, but all of us should do more. Thru our division of Philosophy and Religion, we send a letter of greeting and invitation to each new minister who comes to the city, and get a high percentage of returns. Why not to doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief?

The Cleveland Welcome Wagon is another joyfully cooperative project which carries our messages. Sponsored by a group of Cleveland business houses, an attractive car, with gracious hostess, calls at the door of new householders as they arrive in Cleveland, presents many useful sample packages and addresses, along with printed invitations from the Cleveland Public Library, the Museums of Art and Natural History,

and other public service organizations to make free use of their facilities.

In group work thru the schools, we reach well-nigh our whole future public. How sad that these young people should so often escape us at just the critical moment of their first contact with life's astringent realities. To every young person who leaves school to go to work is sent by our School Department "A New Job" card, with its suggestion "Now that you have a new job, why not use the Cleveland Public Library?" and the request that he bring it to the Stevenson Room for Young People, or to his neighborhood branch library, a directory of the branches being printed on the back of the card.

In intense demand by the jobless, younger and older alike, or by those aspiring to change or better their jobs, is the most recent Bulletin of our Business Information Bureau, "How To Get a Job," which, as described by the *Boston Transcript,* all but takes clients by the hand and leads them to an employer.

The Library's radio affiliation is of great importance, even though the eye does remember longer than the ear. For though the radio voice which presents some phase or service of our library each Saturday morning under the caption *Everyman's Treasure House,* dies quickly upon the air, yet a picture has been formed in the mind, a title or suggestion jotted down, interest stirred, curiosity aroused; requests come in by mail or in person for the list of books mentioned, and the eye's contact with the printed page is made.

In one of the many branch libraries where radio educational programs and accompanying book lists are featured, these are posted under the caption *Education Tunes In,* with the suggestion beneath, "Listen to the lectures; read the suggested books; use them as a basis for discussion." At the Main Library a prominent book rack displays, for lending, books mentioned by the library broadcaster and on other popular or educational radio programs.

And as the visual appeal is stronger and more lasting than the oral—and hence our medium, the printed page more effective than a million lectures—so much greater is the importance of our affiliation with such a social medium as the motion picture. What the eye beholds, the mind craves to know more about. At the present moment it is "Marie Antoinette" and the French Revolution, a period with such disturbing implications for our own, which has swept from our library shelves every item on the bookmark reading list which we compiled and the exhibiting theater paid for printing. Exhibits of this and other moving pictures and stage plays of library interest, with "still" photographs from the producers, with book jackets and bookmarks, routed thru the library system, offer one of our most effective forms of cooperative publicity.

And then, of course, there is the press, the goal of all our publicists. In a city like Cleveland, with its large population of first and second generation foreign-born, the friendly contact of many branch libraries with local foreign-language newspapers is an invaluable asset. We are glad too that the Library is regarded by our three leading dailies as a fertile source for feature articles on our exhibits, our special foreign collections, our personnel, our readers' advisory service, sound-proof music room, talking books for the blind, filmed newspapers for the research worker, and other special services. And we are duly pleased that the regretted retirement of our beloved former chief, and the welcomed accession of our new chief, together with some spectacular changes on our library board, have brought in their train a whole new lease of life on newspaper interest and space. Our enthusiastic publicity office now counts that day lost in which the library has not made at least one front page; points proudly to its 2,000 inches of newspaper space in the last four months; and clips avidly such headings as "Library aids study for Cleveland Plan"; "City's foreign groups shift reading with Europe crisis"; "Foreign Literature Division of Library aids business"; "Camera magic to save files of Library"; "Spare time put to pleasure and profit"; "Public Library picture file is gold mine of information"; "Library aids clubs planning programs"; "Library marks Europe map changes." And

since in journalistic parlance Names Make News, an increasing number of these stories are tied in with the name of the staff member who must furnish the information for them, or is responsible for the activity which they represent. This serves the double purpose of interesting the public by personalizing the library, and of helping to lift that burning sense of being quite anonymous and unknown in one's work, which must sometimes flare in the most loyal worker.

Such public recognition of fine service may help us to enlist the first-class intelligences which we sorely need. Library recruiting is a job to which we can whole-heartedly give ourselves. Most of all will our problems be solved when we can sell the wonderful opportunity for service which library work offers to the right kind of young people. Young people of ideas and the ability to express and execute them; young people who can write, who can stand up and speak without self-consciousness; young people who by our enthusiasm attracted, and by their own attractive, can in turn attract more readers to our libraries today.

IN A LIBRARY

This is the quiet, subdued and brooding temple of books;
Wise men from East and West here offer their wonder and magic.
In this pantheon all the deathless ones dwell.
Clairvoyant are these silent ones, rapt and tranced they see
As Dante thru a quiet wood the gates of hell and slopes of paradise.
Timeless and unquenchable spirits brood over aisle, alcove and stack.
The attendants are altar ministrants before a still, white flame.

The devotees of the flame are tranquil and assured,
They know all their prayers shall be granted.
The crippled boy here drops his crutch and sits before the flame—
The magic carpet bears him to Samarkand, City of Tamerlane.
Sword on thigh, he swaggers down the street,
Citizen is he with beggar and sultan,
Stout warrior he to the veiled and soft sandaled women.

On wings of Oberon this eager boy has reached a lonely isle,
Behind a musket-piled stockade he gazes trembling at a savage band.
It was an aging spinster that slipped un-noted to this quiet nook,
But now upon Judean hills she sees Orion rise
And mourns the vow a savage sire has made.

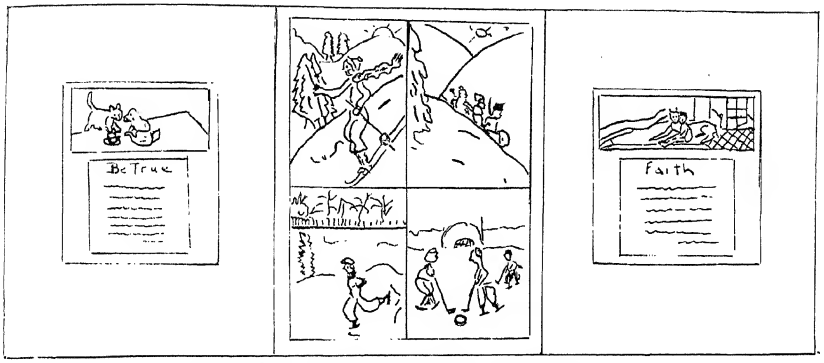
Daily this aged man comes here again to be with his friends,
The friends that he made in his youth;
Many they are and loyal; he trusts them implicitly;
For him they touch this thin straight line, the present,
And back, far back, it rolls to ancient night;
And in this plain he sees the makers of the future—
Prometheus, Cadmus, Alexander, Charles Darwin, Edison—
Beyond this crumbling line and thru the present smoke and dust
Loom vasty forms of things to be, new social orders, empires—
In this nut shell, this ivory tower, he is king of infinite space.

Him, outside, brisk young men regard with easy pity
Not knowing his shuffling feet march to the drum beat,
His eyes to the flags and files of the marching years.
For them a flowing street of shining cars.
For him a wine dark sea and black and flying ships.

W. T. Davis

Making the Most of Bulletin and Blackboards

By Marjorie A. Blackistone *



SKETCH F—WINTER SPORTS—JANUARY 1

(*Continued from our September 1938 issue, page 25*)

January 1

Winter sports

The blackboard is divided into four sections. Pictures are drawn as follows: In the upper left section, a girl dressed in a skiing outfit, descending a snow clad hill; three children on a toboggan gliding down a similar hill on the right side of the board; the lower left section, a boy skating leisurely with arms folded behind him; the right lower section, two ice hockey teams in action. The poems "Faith," by Frances Kemble and "Be True," by Horatius Bonar with two unique pictures—one of a puppy and cat, the other of a Great Dane and baby—are hung on the bulletin boards. The effect which can be secured by mounting typed poems with small pictures taken from the gravure section of Sunday newspapers on colored construction paper is surprising and very useful for bulletin boards.

See Sketch F

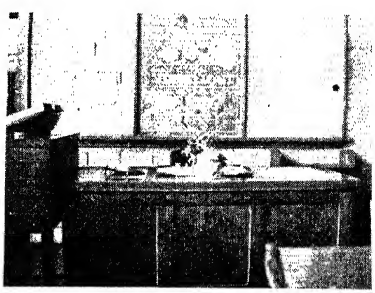
January 15

Vocational guidance

A boy at work with various instruments around him is drawn on the blackboard with colored chalk crayons. Pamphlets on the graduate nurse, radio advertising, the art designer, social worker, salesperson, teacher, accountant, dentist, structural steel worker, domestic service, office clerk, and painter are hung on the bulletin boards. Each pamphlet is backed by a sheet of green or yellow construction paper. The pamphlets belong to the occupational studies in monograph series which were published by the Pittsburgh Public Schools from 1928 to 1931. Books which may be displayed at this time are:

Halle: Which college?
Rosengarten: Choosing your life work
Myers: Planning your future
Greene: The Negro wage earner
Ernst: What shall I be?
Leuck: Fields of work for women

See Picture No. 4



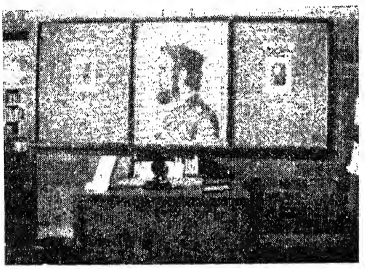
PICTURE NO. 4—JANUARY 15

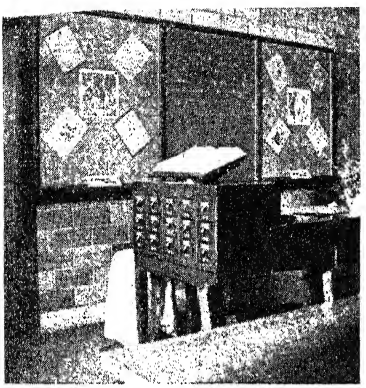
February

February birthdays and celebrations

An art student draws a profile of Lincoln on the blackboard. The bulletin boards contain pictures of noted Negro men and women in the fields of literature, science, and art since Negro History Week also comes in February. These pictures may be secured from the Associated Publishers in Washington, D.C. Books by and about those whose pictures are on the bulletin and blackboards are displayed on a rack in the

* Assistant, Detroit Public Library; formerly Librarian, Roosevelt High School, Gary, Ind.





PICTURES 5 TO 7

reading room. Pamphlets and clippings on the lives of these men are also exhibited. Leaflets entitled *Lincoln Lore*, published by the Lincoln Insurance Co., contain much valuable information and make attractive folders when clipped together in book form. Pictures of various incidents in the life of George Washington may be hung about the rooms. A large valentine standing on the desk shows St. Valentine's Day has not been forgotten.

See Picture No. 5 opposite

Another February suggestion:

Write a quotation from Lincoln on the blackboard with colored chalk crayons. Place different colored construction paper behind four Lincoln Lore leaflets and thumbtack them on the bulletin boards. In the center of each board place a picture of George Washington.

See Picture No. 6 opposite

March 1

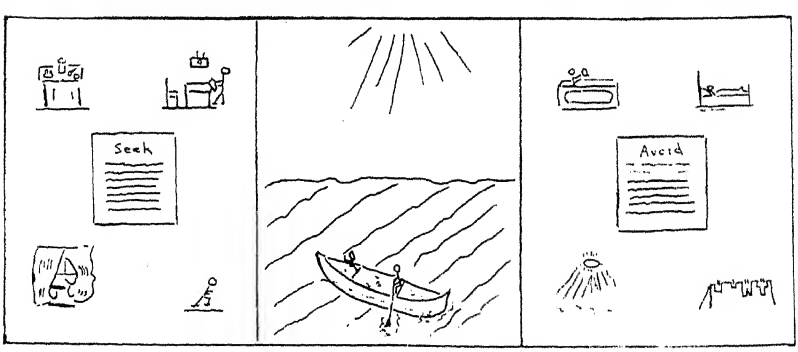
Easter in March

A girl reading a fashion magazine comes in handily as a drawing for the blackboard. The bulletin boards carry the theme "Fashions on parade"; that is, two large sheets of oak tag paper are squared off, a margin in black ink added, and colored style models which have been cut from discarded magazines are pasted on each sheet. An increased interest in fashion magazines and books on sewing is noted just before Easter. This is particularly true if there is a course in sewing or household arts in the curriculum. Attention is called to such books as:

Baldt: Clothing for women
Cook: Essentials of sewing
Denny: Fabrics and how to know them
Dyer: Textile fabrics
Hopkins: Dress design and selection

Picture No. 7 opposite

(*Continued on page* 315)



SKETCH G—HEALTH—MARCH 15

The Library Speaks

By Elizabeth Booth *

I AM the small Public Library.

I live in a little town.

I was born thru the vision, faith, and toil of the Woman's Club.

The lot on which I stand was donated by a real estate agent.

The plans for my building were freely drawn by a famous architect, in tribute to the scenes of his childhood.

From a far-off city the now-wealthy son of the village seamstress sent funds to complete my construction.

Thru the many months while I was growing, carpenters, painters, many laborers, earned food and clothes for their children.

I stand on a quiet, tree-bordered street.

Flowers and grass make my surroundings attractive.

Within all is peace and quiet.

My simple furniture is strong and durable, true to the standard library type.

The librarian graduated from the local high school and took a Library Training Course at the State Woman's College.

The Library Board is composed of a representative from the Woman's Club, The Chamber of Commerce, and the P. T. A.

Ah, well do I remember how I obtained my first books. Everybody in the community took part in a book shower.

Even in that small beginning I boldly took all knowledge for my province.

A retired college president brought a set of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica.*

A college student donated a text book of psychology.

The pastor brought a Bible.

The high school principal bestowed a book, *Education for Today.*

A language student brought a document on comparative philology.

A school boy gladly contributed his physics text book.

The doctor brought from his attic an outdated treatise on medicine.

The choir leader gave a book of old, time-honored hymns.

The English teacher contributed a collection of Shakespeare's plays.

And the history teacher gave Wells' *Outline of History.*

But somehow during the following week not many people came in to read or to get a book.

Then our first order of five hundred books arrived—new, bright, vivid fiction, biography, adventure, science, life of today.

Since that day I have never been lonely.

My book collection has increased to five thousand volumes.

My spirit is the spirit of service.

All ages cluster around my catalog.

My book circulation is extensive.

Little children love my story hour.

The kindergarten class turn the pages of my picture books.

The Boy Scouts meet in one basement room.

The Girl Scouts meet in another.

The members of the Junior Red Cross exhibit their dolls from many lands.

We observe the national holidays.

Book Week is the high point of the library year.

The school pupils find good stories here. Their reading grades improve.

The high school students find much material for enriching their various subjects.

The study group of the Woman's Club plans its work around my book collection.

The tourist finds recreational reading and a pleasant place for making friends.

The Art Club studies my pictures.

An immigrant group finds reading material in its own language, and best of all a newspaper from home.

The Farmer's Club meets in a special room, where the State Experiment Station has installed an agricultural library.

Mothers find new ideas on home-making and child-training.

My books, newspapers, and magazines, make this a well-informed community.

The librarian visits the School, The Rotary, the Kiwanis, the Chamber of Commerce, the Woman's Club. Her sprightly talks are always welcome.

I am the community center.

I am the spirit of America.

I am the small Public Library.

* Tavares, Florida.

$150,000 Addition at Brown

Excavation for the new $150,000 addition to the John Hay Library at Brown University, Providence, R.I., was recently begun. The new wing will contain two reading rooms and stack space for about 150,000 volumes. It will also provide twice as much space as at present for the library's card catalog room and loan desk. The university's book resources now exceed 600,000 volumes.

Dr. Henry B. Van Hoesen, university librarian, announces that in order to make its library a "more effective instrument in education," Brown has set up a group of seven library counselors to guide students in their general reading outside of course requirements.

Accent on Youth

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A. L. A. REORGANIZATION FOR THE YOUNG LIBRARIAN

By J. H. Shera *

"VE been at this convention three days, now; and in all that time but one person has spoken to me—and he was a book salesman!" This plaintive lamentation of a Junior Member at the Chicago meetings of the A.L.A. in 1933, symbolizes in its pathetic disillusionment and loneliness the plight of all too many young librarians at our annual professional convocation. Such a spirit of protest it was that created the Junior Members' Round Table, and as such it stands an eternal rebuke to those self-satisfied elders who profess belief that "the merest staff assistant in the smallest branch feels herself just as much a part of the A.L.A. as the director of a great metropolitan library system." Where lies the cause for a maladjustment such as this? Certainly it is not to be found in any hypothetical anti-social attitude of the girl herself; nor in any intentional indifference on the part of the elders. Some there are who charge that the A.L.A. is too big, and that there is becoming less and less room for the individual in the collective pressure of the mass. But in reality one can scarcely accuse the A.L.A. of excessive size when there are still far too many practicing librarians who are not giving it their financial support or sharing in its activities. Rather, the fault lies in the ratio of size to superannuated structure. The A.L.A. is bursting its administrative buttons. Four decades is a long time in the history of professional librarianship, and an organizational system that may have been completely satisfactory at the turn of the century is not necessarily adequate today.

So, belabor the Junior Members as one may (and to this the present writer must confess to having done his share) they have at least been symptomatic. Perhaps more than any other single factor, they have revealed the failure of the A.L.A. to give to all its members the fullest opportunity for professional expression; an opportunity which, as members, they had a right to expect. Thus the Junior Members' Round Table came into being in response to a very definite need. To what extent it has achieved its purpose is, here, beside the point. The transgressions of the Juniors may be forgotten; but they themselves must not be ignored. Hence it is imperative that any really effective reorganization of the A.L.A. consider seriously the needs of the young, and largely professionally unadjusted, librarian; and, conversely, the younger members must concern themselves with the proposals that have been and will be advanced for modernization of the structure of the A.L.A.

Record of Achievement

Viewed retrospectively, the A.L.A., even as it is now organized, has accomplished much of lasting value to the library novitiate. A detailed consideration of these benefits is not possible here. But to prevent the baby being thrown out with the bath, a brief recapitulation may not be amiss. Even juniors must recognize that their collective lot would be much worse than it is had there never been an A.L.A. to blaze a trail. The A.L.A. has accomplished lasting good in its national stimulation of library growth; its emphasis on legislation in the several states; its study of personnel problems; and its efforts in behalf of Federal aid, which, though not yet successful, hold tremendously important future potentialities. This is to be interpreted as no "sales talk" for the A.L.A. Admittedly a long and difficult road still lies ahead, but a backward glance clearly reveals that the ground already covered is by no means insignificant. Certainly much has been done to make available to the young librarian opportunities that would never have existed had it not been for the work of the national organization.

Yet, despite these achievements, though modest they be, there are still far too many young librarians who do not give their support to the A.L.A. Over half the practicing librarians in the United States, and indeed half of those who read the pages of the *Wilson Bulletin* itself, are not included in the A.L.A. membership list. Why so? Is the young librarian content to let others do the work and pay the piper, while still demanding his share in such collective benefits as may accrue? Or does this indifference arise from the failure of the younger people really to understand the reasons for the existence of the A.L.A., and their relation to it? Basic factual data are necessary here for a proper answer. But in the absence of such specific information it may be well, for once, to give the Juniors the benefit of the doubt; and assume that this lack of interest stems from a lack of understanding bred by the faulty organization of the A.L.A. itself. In so doing one need not be accused of over-kindness to the Juniors. There is much reason in the support of such a contention.

Assuming, then, the important share of faulty organization in this unfortunate situation, let us focus present attention on three major aspects

* Graduate Library School, University of Chicago.

of A.L.A. reorganization which have far reaching implications for the relationship of the national association to the young librarian. All three of these factors are still in a fluid state, but their direction of flow is even now sufficiently clear to indicate the general trend, and to reveal their relative importance to young library workers.

Classified Membership

Membership Reclassification: One of the basically significant features of such a scheme as that advanced some three years ago by Ralph R. Shaw,[1] and in the present writer's opinion, not since equaled by any subsequent recommendation, is that it definitely "places" the younger librarian in proper relation to the profession as a whole, distinguishes sharply between clerical and professional levels of work thus protecting the able apprentice against unfair wage competition, and supplies a distinct professional incentive to advancement. Too often it has been assumed that the motive behind such a "hierarchy" is to "freeze" the worker into an eternal cast system. Nothing could be further from the truth. Quite the contrary, it sets forth in specific terms the very avenues thru which the beginner may advance professionally, outlines the rewards he may expect as a result of progress from one group to the next, and, what is most important, furnishes a workable standard and a base for the creation of uniform and coordinated state certification laws. To such advantages as classified membership has to offer the young librarian cannot afford to be indifferent. From it *he* stands to benefit most. It is his bulwark against chaos in state certificatory legislation. In it is to be found the basis for intelligent solution to the problems of personnel. Personnel is far from being the only concern of the A.L.A., and Juniors as well as others, should not preoccupy themselves with salary scales to the exclusion of all else. Nevertheless, here are problems that are extremely important, and the logical point of departure for any pragmatic solution is membership classification.

Variable Dues

Allocation of Dues: Closely associated with the classification of membership is the problem of a scaled schedule of dues, based on the ability to pay *and* on benefits received. It is the general opinion, and justly so, that the reason for the vast numbers of young librarians who subscribe to their respective state associations while ignoring the A.L.A. is largely the price differential between one dollar and three. The young librarian, still in library school or just beginning his professional life, is not financially able to contribute heavily to the support of any professional association. In addition it is quite possible and even somewhat necessary for one individual to contribute to as many as seven or eight separate library organizations, all of which are doing good work and all worthy of support. But the financial drain of such a program is truly alarming. Furthermore, professional associations do not, at the early stage of the librarian's career, mean as much to him as they should in later life. Hence, those of us to whom the A.L.A. means more should contribute more heavily to its support; not only because we are more nearly able to do so, but also because we derive many more benefits therefrom. In the final analysis the payment of dues is only a voluntary form of taxation; the same principles of benefit and ability to pay apply in either case.

Pyramidal Reorganization

Union of Local Groups with A.L.A.: Louis Shores in his pyramidal reorganization plan[2] has admirably paved the way for an intelligent consideration of a development which many feel to be increasingly necessary: a definite union of the national with state and local associations. Such a system would touch the young librarian at the very beginning of his career and at a very necessary stage. But perhaps most important of all, it would furnish the A.L.A. with a definite proving or testing ground whereby hidden personnel resources might be given an opportunity for expression and development. By first preparing themselves in local, city, and district activities, juniors of demonstrated promise could be drawn into spheres of larger influence. This does not mean that access to the heights could be attained only thru following a prescribed route of ascent. It is merely that such organization would greatly facilitate the discovery of talent. Librarianship might accomplish much by the *adaptation* of professional baseball's system of minor league "farms."

There is an unmistakable feeling of the growing need for more adequate representation on the A.L.A. Council of state associations and special library groups, and that the Junior Members must be made to feel that they too are adequately represented.

Any one of these three points needs much greater consideration than the present limitations of space permit. But perhaps enough has been said to indicate the importance of A.L.A. reorganization for the young librarian. It involves many problems that effect him directly, merit his serious consideration, demand his *constructive* criticism and support. The Third Activities Committee as now organized is definitely con-

(*Continued on page 324*)

[1] Shaw, Ralph R: The American library association—to-day and tomorrow. *A.L.A. Bulletin.* 29: 483-8. August 1935.

[2] Shores, Louis: A Proposal for the pyramidal reorganization of the A.L.A. *A.L.A. Bulletin.* 32: 1013-19. December 1938.

The Roving Eye

[Statements of The Roving Eye express the views of the writer and not necessarily those of The H. W. Wilson Company.]

Who Is to Blame?

CONCERNING the allegation that librarians as a class are distinguished by a decorous but stultifying conservatism, Forrest B. Spaulding, Librarian at Des Moines, observes:

"I have been most interested in the letters by 'Disappointed' in your September issue, and by 'A Liberal Librarian' in your November issue. The experiences of these two have convinced them that librarians as a class are the most reactionary of all the professionals. If this is true, who is to blame?

After all, the policies of our librarians are laid down by trustees rather than by librarians and if trustees generally represent the reactionary group, librarians generally will tend to be reactionary in carrying out the orders of their superiors.

Some of your readers might be interested in the 'Bill of Rights' recently adopted by the board of trustees of this library, as well as the editorial comments thereon."

A Library "Bill of Rights"

The document that Mr. Spaulding sends me was unanimously adopted by the Des Moines library board at its meeting of November 21. As the *Des Moines Tribune* aptly remarks, it may truly be called "the Bill of Rights for the free public library." I commend it to every librarian and to every library trustee, and I congratulate the city of Des Moines on its good fortune and good sense in re-dedicating its library, as "the citadel of the free citizen," to the service of the truth that makes us free. The Des Moines resolution reads:

"Now, when indications in many parts of the world point to growing intolerance, suppression of free speech and censorship, affecting the rights of minorities and individuals, the Board of Trustees of the Des Moines Public Library reaffirms these basic policies governing a free public library to serve the best interests of Des Moines and its citizens.

1. Books and other reading matter selected for purchase from public funds shall be chosen from the standpoint of value and interest to the people of Des Moines, and in no case shall selection be based on the race, nationality, political or religious views of the writers.

2. As far as available material permits, all sides of controversial questions shall be represented equally in the selection of books on subjects about which differences of opinion exist.

3. Official publications and/or propaganda of organized, religious, political, fraternal, class, or regional sects, societies or similar groups, and of institutions controlled by such, are solicited as gifts and will be made available to library users without discrimination. This policy is made necessary because of the meager funds available for the purchase of books and reading matter. It is obviously impossible to purchase the publications of all such groups and it would be unjust discrimination to purchase those of some and not of others.

4. Library meeting rooms shall be available on equal terms to all organized non-profit groups for open meetings to which no admission fee is charged and from which no one is excluded."

Make It Unanimous!

Why cannot the same or similar resolutions be adopted by every public library in the country? It would be a cheering demonstration of the vitality and confidence of the democratic spirit in a world where the forces of obscurantism and of the restraint and persecution of minorities are in the ascendant. Here is a worthy project for every librarian and every library staff organization: to recommend this challenging program to the library's trustees and to campaign for its adoption.

I should be happy indeed to print in these columns the names of all libraries that endorse the Des Moines "Bill of Rights." Who will be first?

An Occupational Malady?

To revert to the original subject of discussion: while it may be true, as Mr. Spaulding contends, that reactionary library trustees make for reactionary library policies, I should hate to believe that it is imperative for librarians to assume a dull protective coloration in order to occupy their jobs as inconspicuously as possible. Must the fire-eating Juniors swallow, little by little, all their flame? Evidently that is the tendency, for I note an English cousin's disenchanted comment in the *Library Assistant*:

"We ourselves are part of the celebrated class of black-coat workers who, by reason of the necessary conventionality of our lives, sooner or later expect that conventionality to be present in our borrowers who, of course, may not feel that necessity with the same force. As an illustration of this I need hardly point out to you the innumerable examples of members of our profession who in their youth were men of outrageous political, artistic, and moral opinions but who latter settled down as family men of unimpeachable opinions, morals, and habits, to the confounding of their hopeful juniors."

That's a little naïve, I fear, on the "morals" question; but, seriously, wouldn't it be a good idea—in addition to the specific action recommended above on the "Bill of Rights"—for such groups of young librarians as the Junior Members Round Table and the Staff Organizations Round Table to work out a general program aimed at preventing that hardening of the intellectual arteries that may be regarded as an occupational malady?

THOMAS WOLFE, 1900-1938

"The death of Thomas Wolfe is like the fall of a city."—S.J.K.

The sunrise tower is tumbled in the street,
As if upon his death a city fell,
The rampart crumbling inward, and the feet
Of terror fled before the cracking bell.
He died: It is as if a city built
For vast Homeric laughter and the dance
Of prophets had gone down in creeping silt,
The tables shattered, and the soaring glance
Of eagles marking ruin on the plain
Where temple, tower and hovel now are one.
Oh, when shall such a builder come again,
And such a city be again begun
Where now is but a legend, another Troy
No longer peopled by one Titan boy.

—ELSE ENGELL

A Germany We Love

The book trade reports that it is becoming increasingly difficult, because of the distaste of Americans for what is going on in Germany, to sell books translated from the German. I am sorry to hear it. There is a Germany that deserves our love; there is a Germany, though spiritually or physically in exile now—the Germany of Goethe and Schiller and Heine and Rilke and Thomas Mann—that still endures and that German boys and girls in generations to come will cherish, because it is right and good to do so, long after the hysterical god of the Sports-Palast is overthrown; there is a Germany that we cannot afford to let die, because if it does, part of the genius of the human race dies with it—part of the thrilling, historic testimony by which we recognize our brothers in the savage wastes of time and space.

Two German Books

I have spoken before in these columns of the German poet Rilke, who died in 1926, great in beauty and profundity. Now an admirable book of *Translations from the Poetry of Rainer Maria Rilke,* by M. D. Herter Norton, has been published by W. W. Norton & Co. The individual translations, truly a labor of love and unalloyed fidelity, face the German text on opposite pages—which is the way translations of poetry should always be published, but rarely are. Publishers, who have the capacity and the opportunity for surprising us with a *beau geste* on occasion, do not expect much, in sales, of a book of poems; they expect even less of a book of translations of poems; I hope that the Nortons will be pleasantly surprised by the success of Rilke's poems and that they will be tempted to give us more.

Another book from the German that I hope will be widely read—but for a different reason—is the unexpurgated version of Hitler's *Mein Kampf,* announced for February publication by Stackpole Sons. The translation now available is pretty badly diluted and emasculated so as not to offend American sensibilities. Libraries should make the full text available as soon as it is published, so that none of us may escape knowing what horrible wings of madness brush the forehead of civilization. We need not hesitate to extend the courtesy of our free press even to sadists and megalomaniacs. For they who live by the lie and the threat live only to betray themselves, and shall go out howling. That I must and do believe.

S. J. K.

BULLETIN AND BLACKBOARDS

(*Continued from page* 310)

MARCH 15

Health

A picture of a girl and boy rowing a boat is drawn on the blackboard. One of the bulletin boards has a placard with the following words:

Seek

Fresh air all the time	Exercise in the open
Sunshine	Care of the teeth
Light, clean rooms	Clean clothes
Well-chosen food	Clean body and mind
Ample sleep	Cheerfulness

Four pictures are placed around this placard—a table with milk, eggs, and fruit on it; a girl cleaning a room; an open window; a boy running in regular track outfit. The other bulletin board has a placard with the following words:

Avoid

Breathing foul air	Lack of exercise
"Sun-dodging"	Neglected decaying teeth
Dark, dirty rooms	Dust and smoke
Careless eating	Dissipation
Chronic fatigue	Worry

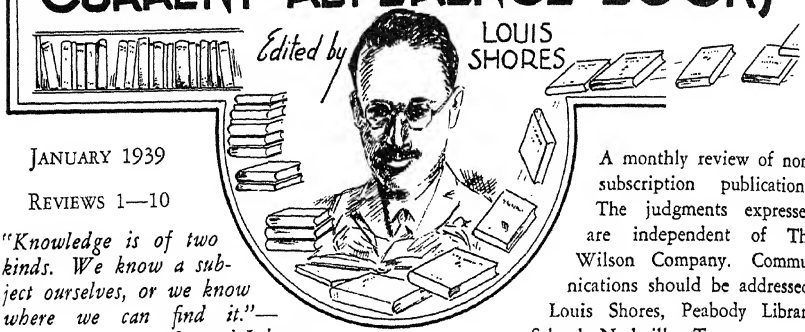
Four pictures are placed around this placard, too—a boy taking a bath, a girl in bed, sun shining on a beach, and clothes hanging on a line. Books displayed:

Beard: Safety first for school and home
Broadhurst: Home and community hygiene
Downing: Science in the service of health
Fisk: How to live
Hough: The human mechanism
Lane: Your carriage, Madam!

See Sketch G

(*To be continued in a later issue.*)

CURRENT REFERENCE BOOKS



JANUARY 1939

REVIEWS 1—10

"Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find it."—Samuel Johnson

A monthly review of non-subscription publications. The judgments expressed are independent of The Wilson Company. Communications should be addressed, Louis Shores, Peabody Library School, Nashville, Tenn.

Current Reference Books of 1938

PUBLICATION of this list has been postponed to a later issue because of the fact that reviews of many of the 1938 titles have not yet appeared in this department. The list will be classified with references to the reviews that have appeared here during the past year.

Sterling North on Reference

Most reference librarians today will probably not take issue with Sterling North, the *Chicago Daily News'* capable literary editor, for objecting to the "librarian-inspired definition" that reference books are not intended to be read thru from cover to cover. A number of library workers, however, many of whom do not live below the Mason and Dixon line, will take exception to his declaration that "It goes without saying that Reinach's *Apollo,* Grove's *Dictionary of Music and Musicians,* and Bulfinch's *Mythology* make more engrossing reading than thousand-page romances by belligerent Southern belles who continue to attack where Robert E. Lee found it expedient to surrender."

All readers of this department will probably go right to his list of reference books—five "essential" and ten additional "to be added as required." They are

1. Webster's Unabridged Dictionary (New international, second edition no doubt)
2. The Lincoln Library of Essential Information
3. World Almanac
4. The Encyclopaedia Britannica
5. Rand McNally's World Atlas (International edition)
6. A good book of quotations (Stevenson's or Bartlett's)
7. Roget's Thesaurus
8. Helen Rex Keller's Dictionary of Dates
9. Cambridge History of English Literature (also the Cambridge History of American Literature)
10. Salomon Reinach's Apollo
11. Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians (with American Supplement as Vol. 6)
12. Bulfinch's Mythology (Modern Library Giant edition)
13. Who's Who in America
14. Emily Post's Etiquette
15. Statistical Abstract of the United States

The list and comment can be found in *Publishers' Weekly,* October 8, 1938, pages 1356-7.

CONTEST

What were the ten most important new titles for reference work published during 1938?

A 1939 reference book will be awarded to the librarian who submits the best ranked list of ten.

Rules of the contest:

1. List in rank order the ten new titles published during 1938 that you consider most important for general reference work. Continuations begun prior to 1938 are not eligible but major revisions of standard works are.
2. Give full bibliographic information for each.
3. Give your name, address, and position.
4. Mail to this department so that it reaches the editor by midnight April 20, 1939.
5. A new 1939 reference book will be awarded to the contestant whose list is judged most satisfactory.
6. Another new 1939 reference book will be awarded to the student enrolled in an approved library school whose list is judged most satisfactory.

Library School Students

The reference books contest is being thrown open to you this year. No one knows better the proverbial lack of time experienced by library school students. Critical examination of 1938 titles, however, must inevitably constitute part of your reference study. At least a dozen of the standard reference works studied only a few years back have been entirely replaced by current titles. Reluctantly, we who have cherished Brewer, Wheeler,

Walsh, and other time-honored allusion books have to concede that the two Oxford "companions" by Harvey are complete successors. We know that the 1938 Champion must supplant the older names we have associated with proverbs. There is no compact science reference tool comparable to the 1938 Van Nostrand. And you have but to examine the hundred other new reference titles to realize how the reference course in 1939-40 will differ from the course you are taking this year.

This contest provides an opportunity to keep abreast of new reference publications, to apply the criteria set up for judging reference books, to equip yourself to renovate the reference collection in the library you go to next year, and incidentally to win a new reference book for yourself.

Preface to Reference

Advice to encyclopedia contributors from Norman Taylor's *The garden dictionary* (Houghton, c1936. $7.50):

"Your article must not be written for the experts, but it must be apparent that it has been written by one."

1. Catholic Pamphlets

INDEX TO AMERICAN CATHOLIC PAMPHLETS. By Eugene P. Willging. St. Paul, Minn., Catholic Library Service, c1937. 128p. $1.25 (address orders to Compiler, University of Scranton, Scranton, Pa.

—Supplement one for 1937. 20p. 25c

Scope: Guide to over 1500 Catholic pamphlets in print January 1, 1937, and the supplement lists 300 additional titles issued during 1937.
Arranged: Classified, with alphabetical index.

The compiler is librarian of the University of Scranton. He is rapidly becoming an authority on the growing field of pamphlet literature. His index with its classified listings and its careful descriptive annotations provides guidance thru part of the maze of ephemeral materials which increasingly extends library selection and dissemination responsibilities. Only leaflets of four pages or less are omitted. As nearly as possible this Index undertakes to be comprehensive and will be kept up-to-date by annual supplements.

2. Radio Handbook

THE RADIO MANUAL, for radio engineers, inspectors, students, operators and radio fans. 3d ed. By George E. Sterling. N.Y. D. Van Nostrand Company, 1938. 1120p. $6

Scope: Handbook of elementary, amateur, aviation, marine, police radio, and broadcasting.
Arranged: Logically, with index.

The author is Assistant Chief Field Section, Engineering Department, Federal Communications Commission. His style is vigorous, keen, endowed with the conviction necessary to convey technical information. Information is up-to-date, including the Cairo revisions of the General Radio Regulations of the International Conference of Madrid, as well as all U.S. government regulations. Specimen examination for radio operators is appended. Since the last complete revision was dated September 1929, libraries will want to purchase this edition.

3. Dictionary of Home Economics

A DICTIONARY OF FOOD AND NUTRITION. By Lulu G. Graves and Clarence Wilbur Taber. Philadelphia, F. A. Davis Company, 1938. 423p. $3.50

Scope: Food items, diets, nutrition, with an appendix of tables.
Arranged: Alphabetically, except for appendix.

The authors indicate physicians, dietitians, home economists, food producers, as well as nurses and mothers, are prospective users. But librarians should be added because they will appreciate the arrangement, the compact definitions, the apt discriminations, the many tables both in the body and in the appendix. At random, here are some bits of information that interested this reviewer: the difference between noodles and macaroni; classification of cheese; the table indicating which foods after digestion yield an ash with either an excess of acid or alkali; lists indicating the comparative digestibility of various foods; common medical abbreviations used in diet therapy; nutritive value of foods; and a bibliography. Useful in school, public, and college libraries.

4. Furniture

THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FURNITURE. By Joseph Aronson. N.Y., Crown Publishers, c1938. 202p.

Scope: Art and industry of furniture.
Arranged: Alphabetically.

More than half of this volume consists of illustrations, some 1,000 in all. There are in addition some 2500 definitions. Armed with these any connoisseur should be able readily to recognize and classify any antique pieces. The marginal illustrations are particularly instructive revealing peculiarities of design often better than the photographs. There is a good selected bibliography for further reading. A useful reference tool for college and public library.

5. Sports

THE BOOK OF MAJOR SPORTS. Edited by William L. Hughes. N.Y. A. S. Barnes and Company, 1938. 396p. $3.00

Scope: Football, basketball, baseball, track, for coaches and players.
Arranged: By sport, with full index.

The editor is associate professor of physical education, Teachers College, Columbia University. His collaborators are, for football W. Glenn Killinger of West Chester State Teachers College; for basketball, Charles C. Murphy, Bristol, Conn., Boys' club; for baseball, Daniel E. Jessee, Trinity College; for track and field Ray M. Conger, Penn State College. There is no question that these four sports are the ones about which reference questions are most frequently asked. It is convenient to have in one volume up-to-date information on rules, systems, strategies, all illustrated with good diagrams.

6. Notable Jews

WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN JEWRY . . . v. 3, 1938-1939. Edited by John Simons. N.Y., National News Association, inc. c1938. 1174p.

Scope: "A biographical dictionary of living Jews of the United States and Canada."
Arranged: Alphabetically, with geographical index.

There are 8,744 full biographies, 1,900 additional listed names and some 400 portraits. Altho the title-page limits inclusions to the United States and Canada, the geographical index indicates a good representation of outstanding Jews abroad. The one major foreign country under which no names are listed is Germany. How influential and significant the Jewish contribution to American life is can be appreciated merely by casually thumbing the pages. Everywhere names that appear in the headlines in politics, business, the theatre, art, literature, radio, movies, music, stand out. Occasionally one discovers Jews who have embraced other faiths. The case of Norma Shearer illustrates the opposite—one who has adopted the Jewish religion.

The volume is itself a tribute to the careful editing that has gone into it. Almost every librarian who examines a biographical dictionary is on the alert for racketeering. Soon after one reads the first page of the preface, one sets to work applying the same criteria one invokes in judging our finest national biographical dictionaries and finds this volume not wanting. There is no more dignified, reliable, and readable "Who's Who" published. Public libraries will find it a welcome addition to the reference collection.

7. Maps

OFFICIAL MAP PUBLICATIONS, a historical sketch and a bibliographical handbook of current maps and mapping services in the United States, Canada, Latin America, France, Great Britain, Germany, and certain other countries. By Walter Thiele, under the direction of A. F. Kuhlman. Chicago, A.L.A., 1938. 356p. $4.75

The best guide to the library problem of maps available. Included are a compact summary of the history of map-making, a description of contemporary government maps and mapping services, and lists of maps classified by subject and by location. A chapter on map reading and evaluation, and a list of highway maps available from private sources such as the American Automobile Association would be welcome additions in a revision.

8. High School Fiction

SUBJECT INDEX TO HIGH SCHOOL FICTION; preliminary edition. By Jeanne Van Nostrand. Chicago, A.L.A., 1938. 67p.

Scope: 476 books of fiction published 1930-1937 for the most part.
Arranged: Part 1 subject index, part 2 alphabetic author annotated list of books.

A good selection of books and subject headings characterizes this pamphlet which should prove helpful in school reference work.

9. Vocations

VOCATIONS IN FICTION; an annotated bibliography, 2d ed. By Mary R. Lingenfelter. Chicago, A.L.A., 1938.

Scope: 463 novels representing 102 occupations.
Arranged: By occupation with author index.

Two separate lists under each occupation separate out-of-print items from books in print July 1937. Symbols indicate the class of reader for which the book is suitable. Its value to librarians, teachers, and counsellors will be considerable.

10. Labor in Fiction

A LIST OF NOVELS AND STORIES ABOUT WORKERS. Comp. by Eleanor Copenhaver Anderson. N.Y. Womans Press, 1938. 12p. $0.30

An annotated list of 32 books, an additional list not as fully described and a list of Modern Library titles bearing on the general field of labor.

FUGITIVES

are reference questions still unanswered in the library where they were asked. If you can answer them please send the citation to this department. If you have Fugitives of your own send them in for others to answer.

1. (My '38) Since first reading the Fugitive

"Trudge on with hearts elate
And feet with courage shod
For that which men call fate
Is the handiwork of God"

I have done some searching, for the verse seemed so familiar. Though I did not locate the source or author, I find it so similar in

rhyme and rhythm to the poem "Each in His Own Tongue" by William Herbert Carruth that I am offering a bit of comment by the author of that poem of four verses. He says:

"It (the poem) has been made the theme of many sermons by preachers of all denominations; it has been added to, and subtracted from: it has been plagiarized; it has been set to music; it has even been published as translation. I have received not a few appeals to adopt stanzas composed by others who felt I had not said all I might on the subject."

So perhaps the Fugitive is one of the verses composed by another person than the author.

LOUISE ASKREN, *Librarian*
Mount Ayr, Iowa

(Je '38) In your column in the November issue of the Wilson Bulletin a correspondent mentions this Library's complete file of the New Eclectic Magazine in connection with the discussion concerning the editor of that journal in 1868. Since there appears to be some difference of of opinion, we have tried to investigate the matter and have reached the conclusion that the editor in 1868 was Lawrence Turnbull (1843-1919), a son of Henry C. Turnbull. Two other Turnbulls were connected with the periodical at various times as owners or publishers.

Our conclusions are based on the following findings: William Hand Browne was editor and joint owner (with Albert Taylor Bledsoe) of the Southern Review (new series) 1867 and 1868. Volume 4 (July-Oct. 1868) of this review was entered in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the District of Maryland by Bledsoe and Browne, pubs. Volume 5 (1869) was entered by Albert Taylor Bledsoe, Browne having withdrawn in 1869 to become associated with Mr. Lawrence Turnbull on The New Eclectic Magazine, published in Baltimore by Turnbull & Murdoch (1868-69), (H. C. Turnbull Jr). In George P. Rowell & Co's American Newspaper Directory (N.Y. 1869), Turnbull & Murdoch are listed as editors and publishers of the New Eclectic. In the 1868/69 Baltimore City Directory, the preface of which is dated November 1868, Browne is listed as editor with A. T. Bledsoe of the Southern Review under the firm name Bledsoe & Browne. An examination of the files of the New Eclectic for 1868 and 1869 substantiates the above. Browne's name appears for the first time in the index to vol. 5 (July-December 1869), where the following entry appears: The Green Table, conducted by William Hand Browne. He probably began his editorial work on the New Eclectic earlier in that year, possibly with the January issue. The Green Table, a column which he is credited with starting, appears first in the June 1869 issue. In the December 1870 issue of the New Eclectic Lawrence Turnbull signs "a parting word" and says that he founded the New Eclectic Magazine and devoted to it his time and means for three years (1868-70). Following this "parting word" a notice states that Mr. William Hand Browne will continue as *Editor* and the new name will be The Southern Magazine, with the following as joint *proprietors and publishers*: Fridge Murdoch, William Hand Browne, and William L. Hill. In the January 1873 issue W. L. Hill announces that his connection with the periodical ceased with the close of 1872. From January 1873, the publishers are the Turnbull Brothers (Henry C. Turnbull Jr. and J. Lisle Turnbull), Brown continuing as editor.

All the above facts seem to verify and substantiate the statement found in many accounts that Browne joined Lawrence Turnbull as joint editor of the New Eclectic in 1869, Turnbull apparently having served as editor alone up to that time.

MARY N. BARTON, *Head*
General Reference Department
Enoch Pratt Free Library
Baltimore, Md.

4. (Je '38) A friend mails me the attached clippnig from your "Fugitives" column (date not given). Will you please inform your inquirer of item number 4 that I am the person sought. I shall be glad to supply any information desired or complete data on my work can be obtained from the Biographical Dictionary of Contemporary Poets published this spring by Avon House of New York.

FLORENCE C. ROBERTS
1417 *North Church St.*
Rockford, Ill.

6. (Oct. '38) I received a letter recently from Miss Quantrille D. McClung of the Genealogical Department of the Denver Public Library answering my reference question which you had published in the Wilson Bulletin. She gave me a list of sources to consult in answering the question regarding a list of foreigners participating in the Revolutionary War.

This list I will pass on to you:

Balch, T. French in America during the War of Independence of the U.S. 1777-1783.

France. Ministres des affaires estrangeres. Combattants francais de la guerre Americaine. 1778-1783.

Soldiers and sailors of France in the American War for Independence, 1776-1783.

French soldiers killed at Yorktown, in William and Mary Quarterly, Second series, v. 12, p. 70.

O'Brien, M. J. A Hidden Phase of American History, etc. has an appendix listing Irishmen in the Revolution.

Rosengarten, J. C. The German soldier in the wars of the United States, p. 157.

Miss McClung adds that there are many lists of Revolutionary soldiers in the Archives of Pennsylvania, with numerous German names.

SALLIE M. LEUER
Loyola University
New Orleans, La.

9. We have a request for help in locating the author of the following quotation, and the work in which it appears:

"God . . . makes friends and draws them to one another. God is ever drawing like towards like and making them acquainted."

ALMERE L. SCOTT, *Director*
Debating and Public Discussion
University of Wisconsin

10. Can you identify the following sentence with a book by one of the following authors: H. G. Wells, Hendrik Van Loon, or Huxley?

"All the people in civilization could be placed in a box one mile square."

A science teacher in our high school made this information. Thank you for this service.

MINDA L. MORRISON, *Librarian*
The Berlin-Brothers Valley Public Schools
Berlin, Pa.

[Hendrik Van Loon in his *Geography* (Simon and Schuster, c.1932., p. 3, says they could all be "packed into a box measuring a half mile in each direction."—L.S.]

Note on Fugitive 4

The request came from Margaret Reynolds, Librarian of the First Wisconsin National Bank of Milwaukee for "something about Florence S. Roberts, who she is and where she lives. Her poem "Farewell to Su-Lin" appeared in the *Chicago Tribune*, a "Line o'Type or Two," edited by June Provines on April 5. Neither Miss Provines nor Miss Mildred Burke of the *Chicago Tribune* Library were able to furnish us with this information." The first announcement of this in the *Wilson Bulletin* brought a letter from the poet, herself—a tribute to the coverage of the *Wilson Bulletin* and the care with which each issue is read.

Correction of Correction

The publisher of *Source Records of the Great War* is Stuart-Copley Press, Boston, as originally stated in our review (no. 43, September 1938).

LIBRARIES ABROAD

By Ruth Mishnun *

[A monthly commentary on foreign professional publications. Requests from readers for information on recent developments in any particular field will be welcomed.]

ONE of the most pressing problems in many parts of the world is the provision of reading matter for the racial elements which have not yet assimilated the culture and language of the governing population. In the Dutch East Indies the reading habit is fostered by the Office for Popular Reading, which was organized in 1917 for the purpose of raising the educational level of the native groups. An annual government subsidy provides for the establishment of libraries and for extensive publishing activities. The Office issues three periodicals in Malay, Sundanese, and Japanese, respectively, as well as numerous adaptations of European books in the native languages, produced in editions of 5,000 and sold at an average price equivalent to about twenty-five cents in American currency.[1]

Bantus Prefer Non-Fiction

In South Africa an amazing interest in European literature is evident among non-Europeans. Some of the Bantus, however, consider novel-reading a waste of time and accept only factual literature, as the quickest way of attaining the white people's level of information. Breasted's *History of the Ancient Egyptians* was the most popular book in one section of the Transvaal.[2] The Carnegie Corporation has played an important part in supplying books to the native settlements in the interior. It has made a $2,500 grant to the Public Library of Bloemfontein, in the Orange Free State, which distributes and alternates its collection of five hundred items among five local centers.[3] In the Transvaal the same function is performed by the Carnegie Non-European Traveling Library, which has its headquarters in Germiston.[2] The Negro population is also eager for literature in its own dialects, but little has been produced so far, either of an original nature or in translation. Our own Indian reservations present a similar, if more limited, problem, which has received little attention. *Library Literature* has not used the heading, "Indians and the library," since 1935. Perhaps its reappearance would be welcomed.†

South Africans, like ourselves, have been going tooth and nail at the question of women as librarians. There is this difference, though, that below the equator the professional situation, like the climate, is in reverse. The majority of South African librarians are of the opposite, or male, sex. Feminine partisans everywhere will support, at least conditionally, the statement made in a recent study that "altho women are not in theory precluded from the majority of better paid and more responsible positions, in practice men are preferred." The investigator is nevertheless confident that the end of the next decade will find many women in the position of chief librarian.[4] In Italy, on the other hand, high positions are frequently occupied by women, who are not unwilling to accept lower salaries than men of equal ability and greater ambition. Many of the lower grades of work are performed by men. The reporter of these facts notes with some astonishment that no friction results from the subordination of men to women.[5]

Last April Mr. E. A. Savage of Edinburgh wrote a persuasive article urging librarians to place an attractive selection of books on all subjects and in all literary forms in their reference rooms, alongside the usual array of reference works, for the use of people whose homes offer them no asylum for the enjoyment of literature.[6] Now a German writer on the same subject out-savages Savage with the question, "Why reference books at all?" Scrap your weighty compendiums, your voluminous dictionaries, he adjures. Keep only the spare skeleton of your overstuffed scholarly collection, and fill your reference shelves with brightly covered, handsomely illustrated, easily handled modern treatments of subjects of interest to the ordinary reader, which can be replaced as soon as they are outdated. In short, make this collection an epitome of the circulating collection, so that the reader will be imperceptibly lured from the one to the other. The writer suggests a classification scheme for these books, which is based on the current idealization of the German nation and people.[7]

German Prison Libraries

German prisoners are obliged to visit the prison library every two weeks. At each visit they are given from two to five books, totaling five to six hundred pages. They are permitted to read only on Saturday afternoons and Sundays. Half of each prisoner's quota

* These notes have been compiled with the collaboration of the editorial staff of *Library Literature*, of which the author is a member.

[1] See list of references following this article.

† EDITOR'S NOTE—Welcome, December 1938 *Wilson Bulletin*, p. 260!—S.J.K.

is factual material and the other half recreational. Every eight weeks, and oftener in the case of political prisoners, each inmate receives a book expounding or illustrating the National Socialist doctrine. The titles are chosen and distributed by trusted inmates under the supervision of the prison librarian.[8]

One exception to this enforced reading rule might profitably be made in the case of the man who was lately arrested in Hamburg after having removed over six hundred copper engravings from rare books in libraries there and elsewhere in Germany.[9]

The president of the Reichskulturkammer has requested all German publishers to simplify life for librarians by printing the author's full name on the title page of his book, and by printing either on the title page or on its verso its date of publication, its previous date of publication if this is not its first issue, its previous title if it has appeared under another title, and its original title if the book is a translation.[10]

A Russian Periodical Celebrates

The Russian library periodical, *Krasnyi Bibliotekar'*, celebrated its fifteenth anniversary in September. The anniversary number contained many articles paying tribute to the periodical for its leadership in pioneer library work in the Soviet Union. It has been a powerful force for the education of adults and the liquidation of illiteracy. In the year 1936-1937 there were 8,947,000 students in adult schools in Russia. Rural district libraries are especially active in this field. They carry on readers' advisory service and interbranch loan, send out traveling libraries, and provide books for collective farms.[12] A great need exists for trained personnel in industrial and trade union libraries.[13] In order to supply this need an institute in Moscow offers training courses for special librarians, lasting from three months to a full year. The students study not only library science, but also social and political science, literature, and political mass education.[14]

A book selection information service for the Roman Catholic libraries of Holland and the Flemish speaking portions of Belgium has been launched by the Roman Catholic Public Library Association and the Association of Roman Catholic Book Dealers and Publishers of the Netherlands. Over one hundred publishers submit advance copies of their publications to the service, and printed cards for these titles are sent to each subscribing library before the publication of the books. These cards contain critical notes and symbols indicating the age level and classification of the works in question. An annual subscription costs 15 florins (about $8).[15]

One of the topics discussed at the second International Conference of Hospital Librarians held in Bern this year was the disinfection of books read by tuberculous patients. Ivan Gaussen conducted an experiment in Paris to prove that books which have been isolated for ten days after exposure to tuberculosis bacilli are unlikely to cause infection, and that a two weeks' isolation period eliminates all danger of disease from this source. Chemical disinfection is therefore unnecessary for all practical purposes except to allay the fears of other patients.[16]

Skeptic Counsel

Let me close with an admonition lately given to Czech librarians by one of their number, who exhorted them to be more business-like, to put no faith in verbal agreements (especially with bookbinders), never to pay in advance (particularly a bindery bill), and to check and recheck all their accounts faithfully.[17] I hasten to add that such counsel is no concern of the astute readers of the *Wilson Bulletin.*

Next month this department will present a brief survey of foreign books on library science and related topics.

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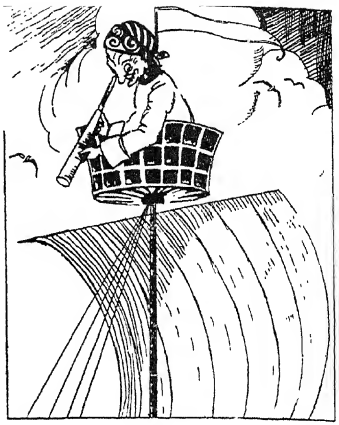
THE CROW'S NEST

Guy R. Lyle, Editor



[The purpose of this department of survey and comment, devoted to current library publicity, is to acquaint librarians with the efforts and experiments of their colleagues in popularizing library services, and by criticism and suggestion to help raise the level of effectiveness of this increasingly important phase of library activity. Librarians are invited to send articles, copies of publicity material, descriptions and photographs of exhibits, booklists, annual reports, etc. to the editor of "The Crow's Nest," Guy R. Lyle, Librarian, Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N.C.]

THERE are some famous works of literature which are the delight of scholars but hardly at all known to the general reader. Of such, we think first of the Christmas gift-books published by Walter Kahoe of the Antioch Press for his friends: Barham's *Grey Dolphin, Three Legends of the Middle Ages,* Stevenson's *Pulvis et Umbra,* and others. Walter has an acute instinct for the finest in literature. When he is not teaching or printing, he can usually be found poring over old books and catalogs in his splendid private library of several thousand volumes. This Christmas he is starting a new venture which it is an honor to mention even if it may later prove unprofitable. It is magazine anthology for bookish folks published under the title *The Golden Door Magazine.* The first number makes its appearance on the news stands the day after Christmas. A subscription costs $2.50 (Golden Door Magazine, Yellow Springs, Ohio). In it you will find Samuel Butler's *The Rights of Animals and of Vegetables* which Shaw considered a direct attack upon himself; one of the finest of the Elia essays, *Witches and Other Night Fears*; Thomas Bailey Aldrich's second best poem, at least so he himself described it, *Friar Jerome's Beautiful Book,* which was first published in the *Atlantic* (1864); Oscar Wilde's *The Canterville Ghost*; and others—some old acquaintances as well as works about which you have often heard but never found. A section of the magazine each month will be devoted to notes and comments on authors and to bibliographical data.

Anniversary Notes

A good publicity project for any librarian who has the time to do it is the preparation of a brief history of the library. We are not suggesting a definitive work on the order of the Dr. Lydenberg's monumental history but rather a simple record high-lighting the progressive development of the library without too much evidence of chronology and dates. Perhaps if the librarian is too busy to do this, she might be able to have a member of the Board or of the college faculty commissioned to do it.

In our own spare moments (of which every college librarian has an abundance), we have been reading two interesting little publications which more than fulfill the requirements of the booklet we have in mind: *Passaic Public Library, the First 50 Years* (Passaic, N. J.), and a *Pocket Edition of a Short History of the Mount Vernon Public Library* (Mount Vernon, N. Y.). We admit we are prejudiced in favor of these two booklets from the very start, for we notice that on the inside cover of each, the authors have printed a quotation from Dr. John H. Finley which we always use by way of preface to our periodical requests for larger book appropriations. The quotation reads:

> Libraries are never finished. They must include not only the books that never die, but those that gather fresh wisdom out of the present and look further into the future.

The story of Passaic's first 50 years is typical of all pioneer library developments. The library was first opened in 1888 as a Reading and Reference room only. As an appendix to the recent flare-up over fiction versus non-fiction buying and circulation, ponder this inaugural admonition of the President of the Board of Trustees:

> Bearing in mind how vast is the field of human knowledge, how multitudinous are the books needful to attain even the moderate acquaintance with the marvelous progress of mankind in the Century in which we live, the Trustees are determined to provide only solid books at the start.

By the end of the second year, however, the librarian reports "fiction led in popularity, with history and biography next in favor."

The versatile author of this booklet gives us glimpses into the popular favorites of the day, the records of early librarians who proudly boasted that "it is doubtful if any library has ever done so much with so little money at its disposal," the beginnings of library work with children, the changes from one library building to another, "we outgrow everything," the generosity of public-minded citizens, right on down to the library as it is today with all its multifarious services to the community. Her coup d'êtat, to our way of thinking, is the little gem about the Board's distress over the sudden decrease in circulation during the summer months: "The Library had a rival! The bicycle craze was sweeping the community. 'Give the boys and girls wheels and allow them to run in the streets until nine or ten at night, and they will not be likely to require many books or enjoy the privilege of the Reading Rooms,' mourned one of the Trustees." Mrs. Willcox's pocket edition of Mount Vernon library history is equally interesting but concerns itself more with the services of the library today.

We believe the college library historical booklet has possibilities as a sort of gentleman usher to the statement of library needs in any project which the library might sponsor in a college anniversary program. If you are out for bigger stakes, the organizations of a côterie of friends of the library may have its appeal. As a guide to procedure, study the new edition of the A.L.A. *Friends of the Library Groups* (University and College Library edition). There is a special public library number also. So far we have read only a little way into the College edition —about twenty pages—but we are thoroly impressed by the way the friends idea is catching on. The A.L.A. publication lists fifty college and university libraries which have or are planning to have a friends organization. The method of organization and activities of twenty-two of these are described in detail. They seem to be getting results.

Newark Publicity

Mr. Irvine White, competent publicist for the Newark Public Library, sends us a release which we believe other libraries can use and which reminds us of our whimsical Mandarin's saying "Every Book is a New Book Until You Have Read It."

Newark Public Library Release:

> In keeping with its policy of promoting the reading of older books in the face of an insatiable demand for new ones, the Newark Public Library is showing a selected collection of biographies which were best-sellers several years ago and are less popular altho equally readable today.
>
> The increasing popularity of this form of literature in recent years has placed new biographies in as great demand at the Library as the latest novels, and the current tendency to read only the newest books has caused many to forget equally interesting works of a few years back. The present exhibit is designed primarily as an aid to those who have difficulty in finding new books on the library shelves, and to whom the titles displayed will suggest books they have wanted to read for a long time.
>
> Library workers expect the exhibit to revive interest in books of a decade ago, such as Lytton Strachey's *Elizabeth and Essex, François Villon* by D. B. Wyndham Lewis, and Emil Ludwig's *Goethe,* as well as the more recent *Augustus* by John Buchan, *Audubon* by Constance Rourke, and *Experiment in Autobiography* by H. G. Wells.
>
> Motion pictures have created a popular interest in certain figures of the past and many readers will be glad to be reminded of such titles as *The Genius of Louis Pasteur* by Pierre Compton, *Disraeli* by André Maurois, *Zola* by Henri Barbusse, and *Diamond Jim* by Parker Morell.

Mr. White sends us also a full-page rotogravure clipping from the *Newark Sunday Call* captioned "The Life of a Newark Public Library Book." The seven scenes grouped together in this picture present, at a glance, what it would take seven or more paragraphs to describe in words. Moreover, it takes the reader only a minute to get a real idea of the activity and work of the library from the picture group, an important factor in these days of hasty perusal of newspapers. As briefly as we can describe it, the rotogravure shows:

Picture 1—Miss Beatrice Winser, Librarian, at her desk.
Caption —"All orders to purchase books must be approved by Miss Beatrice Winser, librarian."
Picture 2—Order Assistant checking in new books.
Caption —"When a shipment of new books arrives from the publisher it goes to the order department, where library workers check each volume with the order record. Last year approximately 60,000 books were purchased by the library, as compared with a high mark of 81,000 in 1930."
Picture 3—Catalog assistant embossing a book.
Caption —"Books go next to the catalog department, where they become officially part of the library collection. Each volume is stamped, numbered and equipped with a pocket to hold the borrowing record slip."
Picture 4—Reader consulting new bookshelf.
Caption —"A special shelf in the lending department is reserved for new books, and borrowers seize upon them avidly."
Picture 5—Overhead shot of book trucks filled with books, just sorted, and ready to go to shelves.

Caption —"Each time a borrowed book is returned to the library it must go thru a sorting system as shown here, then to its proper place in the book stacks. About 8,000 books are borrowed and returned each day."

Picture 6—Three assistants mending books—apparently well pleased with the results.

Caption —"Books in need of minor repairs go to the book hospital on the library's first floor, where a special staff is kept busy mending torn pages, cleaning soiled covers, erasing pen and pencil marks and performing a score of other minor operations. Some 370 books are cared for in the repair department each day. About 40,000 volumes a year are sent out to a bindery to be rebound."

Picture 7—Janitor wheeling off boxes of old books.

Caption —"The last mile. Worn and broken beyond repair, print illegible, pages missing, of no further use to readers, the book goes into discard."

Commenting on the Newark rotogravure, Mr. White says "It is an example of the pictorial feature which is so much in demand by rotogravure editors these days but which libraries have difficulty furnishing material. I'm wondering whether other libraries have ideas for picture features, sequences of photographs which tell a story of library work. If so, I'm sure that there are many like myself who would like to hear of them." The only sequence we have received in recent months was a rotogravure section of a Kansas paper showing Stephens College students using their library. If libraries will send us clipping of picture sequences used in their local papers, we shall be glad to report on them in a later issue. Perhaps we can persuade Mr. White to comment on them, to suggest other ideas. As we see it, the primary publicity value of these picture groupings is that they make it possible to present a complicated library story in small compass. More than that, they give the library something the best word picture cannot do—they give it a *personality.*

Gleanings

"A small selected group of the newest books in various subject fields is being made available in the Librarian's office thru the courtesy of a book dealer. This collection will be changed every month, and members of the faculty are invited to inspect the volumes."—Sullivan Memorial Library, Temple University *On The Shelf.*

Exhibit hunch:

What Our Government Prints:

"Do men earn more money than women? What are some of the famous trees in Pennsylvania? Where can you find statistics on college salaries? What kind of fur coat will wear best? How can you get rid of tent caterpillars? What about marihuana? These and countless other questions are answered for the American people by that most prolific of publishers, the U. S. Government Printing Office. The College Library has on display in the lobby and exhibit room some of the recent publications of the government ranging in subject matter from *Refrigerator Recipes* to *The Future of the Great Plains.* There are pamphlets about the PWA, WPA, TVA, social security, federal housing and resettlement.—Penn State College Library *The Headlight.*

(Tie this up with Paul Bixler's excellent article "Uncle Sam's best sellers" *Saturday Review of Literature,* May 28, 1938.)

Day by Day Advertising, Promotion & Publicity for Libraries (E. Gertrude Avey, 2511 Warsaw, Cincinnati, Ohio, 35c). This booklet written by Miss E. Gertrude Avey, Field Representative of the Cincinnati Public Library, aims to raise questions which every competent library publicist must answer to secure good publicity for his library. The questions are designed to bring forth the data on such important topics as *News Stories, Posters & Exhibits, Printed Matter, Radio, Speeches.* In addition, the author gives specific suggestions on collecting background data in public, college, and special libraries. If you can answer these questions, then you are ready to get down to business. To suggest the practical application of the questions to publicity, the author works out a hypothetical campaign for increasing the number of card holders and circulation. Most of the questions are stimulating and practical. The weakness of the leaflet is its brevity. Many of the questions require more than a factual answer. What we need now is an answer book drawn from the author's wealth of experience.

ACCENT ON YOUTH

(Continued from page 313)

scious of the Junior's problems; it asks only that it be approached with intelligence. The path to constructive participation is open. If Juniors are to be content with only destructive ill-tempered criticism, or to sit idly by twiddling their thumbs, they may anticipate little sympathy when they come crying into their pocket-handkerchiefs over lack of proper consideration. Eventually the Juniors will inherit the A.L.A. with all its faults and virtues. Their stake in its successful reorganization is greater than that of any other single group. They have no right to expect their elders to do their job for them.

Films Out of Books

By Maxine Block *

Birth of a Film

PEOPLE working with films, interested students of film technique and just the plain curious have longed to see how a film is actually made and have found New York an indifferent place in which to gratify that desire. Even in Hollywood it is well nigh impossible to get on a sound set no matter what sort of letters one has from the hometown film exchange or Chamber of Commerce.

We were therefore gratified the other day to be invited to watch actual filming at the Eastern Service Studios, located in the wilds of Astoria, Long Island. An important film costing well over $350,000 is now being made there. It is one of two feature films to be produced in the East. The other film, " . . . One Third of a Nation," is now finished and ready for release. On their reception will depend the making of future films here.

The film we saw is titled "Back Door to Heaven" and is a story of hometown life at St. Mary's, a little place outside Cleveland, Ohio, where the director, William K. Howard, was born. Howard is remembered as the director of many successful pictures—"Mary Burns, Fugitive," "Fire Over England," and "Rendezvous."

When we arrived at the studio we were kept waiting at the door (a period, we supposed, in which to purge ourselves of unclean thoughts and get in the proper reverent mood) and then we entered a huge attic-like structure walled with sound-deadening cotton batting, cold and drafty and filled with shadows cast by catwalks overhead, piles of cables and ropes underfoot, spot lights, cameras, pieces of old sets, stacks of boards—all this a ghostly gray, lit by a few dim bulbs.

Workmen were milling around painting a sombre gray courthouse set. Suddenly they and we were stricken into a motionless silence by faraway yells of "Quiet!" "Quiet, PLEASE." "Give us a bell." "This is a take." Red lights blinked, bells rang and everybody froze into a tense attitude. As if miles away a thin queer metallic voice began to intone several lines of a nostalgic tune—something about "country cousins of mine."

The word "Cut!" unfroze us, the workmen began stroking the wood again with their paint brushes, and we were ushered onward to a complete drug store set—complete even to the book sale table in the center which our librarian's eye took in. The set did not even lack the ubiquitous jars of mustard and catsup on the soda fountain. This set, we were told, took four days to assemble, five hours to light and was used for a bit which will probably appear only for a minute or so on the screen in the finished picture.

Next, after conferences between the director and press agent, we were taken to the shooting set. It was a narrow row of prison cells. In one of them Wallace Ford, star of the film, sat huddled on a cell bed. Directly behind him Bert Frohman occupied the second cell. Here we forgot completely the drafty quality of the other part of the studio because the lights were set and blazing hot. The director, who is also the author of the original screenplay, stood in front. Grouped around him were assorted helpers, the script girl, Hal Mohr, the cameraman (winner of the Academy Award for best cinematography on "A Midsummer Night's Dream") and his three assistants. All around us was a tangle of ropes, cables, the huge camera running on tracks, microphone booms, spotlights, etc. The sound equipment stood in a little house behind us.

Quiet!

Then again groups of people took turns yelling "Quiet" (it was as quiet as a tomb), the assistant director said "Bells, please, this is a take," the painters froze in mid-stroke, we froze also hoping we wouldn't cough or sneeze and so spoil a take (Heaven forbid the thought). The makup man entered the first cell and moved a lock of Mr. Ford's hair a fraction of an inch forward. Mr. Mohr said "Roll" to the camera crew (he doesn't touch the camera, only his assistants do that), a hissing noise was heard, a boy quietly entered the cell and stood impolitely in front of Mr. Ford holding a wooden slate which told the number of the take, the director's name and production company, and then clicked a wooden piece (which we found out was to synchronize both the sound and the film.) They the boy departed softly, another helper closed the prison door securely and again the thin, unearthly song about the "country cousins of mine" began. The camera was trained on Mr. Frohman who mouthed his song silently, while the harmonica-playing Mr. Ford pretended to play the tune (already recorded in the sound room and now being played back for the actual filming.) Then the

(*Continued on page 341*)

* Editor, Motion Picture Review Digest.

Junior Librarians Section

[This monthly department, sponsored by the Junior [illegible] Junior groups are asked to send regular reports and recommendations. Correspondence and articles from individual librarians pertaining to the work and wel- [illegible] preferably b[illegible] representative and "coordinator": Mrs. Ruth Phillips Griffith, 4318½ Melbourne Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.]

N. B.—Mrs. Mary Kenan, of the Kern County Free Library, Bakersfield, California will take over the editing of this section for a couple of months. Please send all contributions directly to her.

R.P.G.

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

By Norma Olin Ireland

ELSEWHERE in this Section are announced the JMRT committees for 1938-39, totalling seven. Committee members were chosen on the following points: (1) proven ability as evidenced in previous state or national work, (2) recommendations of both Junions and Seniors, for those not formerly in JM work; (3) geographical representation. Altho it was impossible to represent all the states at this time, we have tried to distribute the appointments as far as possible. There still remain a few appointments to be made, however, including the committees to be named later in the year, i.e., Nominating and Conference committees.

Proposed Code of Ethics

All state chairmen have by this time received copies of the Proposed Code of Ethics for librarians, mailed to them by Hazel B. Timmerman of A.L.A. Headquarters. We ask that each of you cooperate in this matter, to the best of your ability.

Cost of Living Survey

To date, cost of living surveys have been made by the Baltimore Junior Members Round Table and Wisconsin Junior Members. Kansas, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Texas have begun such studies; are there any others? We know of the New Jersey State Library Association, Oregon, and Washington surveys, but we are especially anxious to have the names of Junior groups who have sponsored this work.

Founder of JMRT Retires

Maria V. Leavitt, founder of the Junior Members Round Table, retired from the New York Public Library on October 1, 1938. She came to the library in 1896, a young girl with dark curls and a radiant smile. After forty-two years of service she remains, miraculously, a vivid, youthful person.

Miss Leavitt began her library career as a cataloger and has been head of the Gift Section of the New York Public Library since this section was started in 1900. As gifts to the library passed thru her hands, she knew the joy of receiving, and in the imagination and energy she gave to staff welfare she knew the joy of giving. Such a humanitarian spirit did she carry into her work that her office seemed like a little hospital for the cure of pain and trouble.

As chairman of the A.L.A. Membership Committee Miss Leavitt served for six years. It was while she was chairman of this committee that she first saw the need of an organization within the A.L.A. for the newcomers into the profession. At that time, the younger members had little opportunity for activity in the work of the association and many were not even joining it. The Junior Members Round Table, conceiving as a training ground for professional responsibilities, was the outcome.

At the Kansas City conference Miss Leavitt was guest of honor at the Junior Members' breakfast. It was not planned as a farewell tribute nor do we consider it so now. She is leaving library work because she believes early retirement makes possible an advance in the careers of younger people. But she will remain our friend, still ready to help us should we need her.

Gerald McDonald
New York Public Library

How the Junior Members Round Table Began

By Maria Veazie Leavitt

Juniors in any group have always claimed my interest; doubtless for that reason, when appointed Chairman of the Membership Committee of the American Library Association in 1928, my efforts unconsciously were directed towards the younger members with a hope that they would come together and know each other.

In January 1929 at a meeting of the Columbian Library Association in Washington, D.C., I made a frank appeal for juniors to join the A.L.A. and quoted the fact that many of the library schools were sending in 100 per cent membership. Later at the "midwinter council" of the American Library Association, held in Chicago, December 1930, I asked that a "committee" or "round table" be formed to interest

JMRT honors Miss Leavitt, center, with gift at Kansas City Convention. At left is John M. Connor, New York Junior member, and right, Miss Dorothea Hyle, Kansas City Junior member.

all the young people, now an integral part of the association.

Joseph L. Wheeler of the Enoch Pratt Free Library favored the idea and spoke on my behalf, and it was then voted that I proceed with plans and hold a "round table" at the next conference. Publicity was then given the idea thru the A.L.A. *Bulletin*, and many responses were forthcoming.

This fact was indeed gratifying; the first letter was received from Mildred C. Clapp of the Business Branch of the Newark Public Library who wrote she had "often felt there was need for such a group." Dorothy E. Robinson of the Kearny Free Public Library expressed her belief in the idea; J. Periam Danton, then of the A.L.A., but now Librarian of Temple University, also wrote that "young members of the profession ought to be given an opportunity to express their ideas."

In April of 1931 I was hostess at a small dinner at the Town Hall Club, New York, at which Miss Clapp, Beatrice C. Warner of Yale University Library, and John Russell, Robert A. Miller and Edith Rees, all of the New York Public Library at that time, were the guests.

It was proposed that we form a Junior Members Round Table and ask the A.L.A. to include it on the program of the New Haven Conference to be held in June. John Russell was chosen as Temporary Chairman and Beatrice Warner as Secretary.

The following are a few of the topics that were suggested:

Placement and the work of the A.L.A. personnel service.

Professional advancement and the need of guidance from the A.L.A.

Is the increasing number of library school graduates lowering salaries and limiting the field?

The need of greater emphasis on the training for college and university service.

Library school training versus experience, and the problem of certification.

The encouragement of professional pride and spirit.

There was no program and the discussion was open to all young librarians.

The seven years that have passed since the New Haven conference have been rich in endeavor, and the excellent and inspiring meetings held at the conferences yearly have established the Junior Members Round Table as a vital, progressive and intelligent force. I am proud and happy to have had a small part in its inception. With Mrs. Ireland as chairman in California, and Mr. Heaps as secretary in New York, in very truth its influence now reaches from coast to coast, and who knows but in time it may find its place in international gatherings.

Southeastern District, JMRT

(This material has been collected by Mrs. Sarah Staley Austin, Carnegie Library, Nashville, Tenn.)

Southeastern Junior Members

Officers, 1938-39

President: Walter H. Kaiser, Tennessee Valley Authority, Chattanooga, Tenn.
Vice-President: Emma Louise Wills, University of Alabama, University, Ala.
Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Sarah S. Austin, Public Library, Nashville, Tenn.

A luncheon meeting of the Junior Members of the Southeastern Library Association was held Friday, October 27, in Atlanta during the Southeastern Library Convention. Mae Graham, Department of Library Science, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va., presided, and Mary Louise McDearman read the minutes of the last meeting. Since that meeting which took place in Asheville, N. C., in 1936, both John Hall Jacobs, president, and Miss McDearman, vice-president, have accepted positions which have taken them out of the Southeastern district.

Reports of the activities of Junior Members in various states were given. The states reporting were: Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, and Tennessee.

Alabama

Officers, 1938-39

Chairman: Emma Louise Wills, Librarian, College of Education, University of Alabama, University, Alabama.

The Alabama Junior Members are organized in districts within the state. The Chairmen of these districts are:

Northwest section: Myrtle Emerson, State Teachers' College, Florence.
Northeast section: Carrie Pursell, Hueytown High School, Bessemer.
Southeast section: Mary Greenwood, Elmore County High School, Deatsville.
Southwest section: Julia Jackson, University of Alabama, University.

The Northwest and Southwest sections have monthly meetings during the winter with very carefully planned and stimulating programs.

The Southwest section compiled a code of ethics which was presented at the state meeting in the form of a panel program. This code was adopted by the Alabama Library Association.

Objectives

The objectives of the Junior Members in Alabama for 1938 are:

(1) To complete the Union Catalog of Alabama material in the libraries of the State which was started in 1937 under the leadership of Fannie Schmitt.

(2) To cooperate in the program for a state library agency.

(3) To increase the membership in the Alabama Library Association and the American Library Association.

Budget

The Alabama Library Association at its meeting in March, 1938, voted to include the Junior Members in the budget for the future.

Kentucky

Chairman: Carolyn Foxworth, Georgetown College Library, Georgetown.
Secretary: Dorothy Goodwin, Shelby Park Branch Library, Louisville.

This year the Kentucky Junior Members met jointly with the Ohio group and held both a morning program and a banquet that night. The Kentucky group have pledged themselves to assist in any project undertaken by the Kentucky Library Association. One of their main purposes has always been to add new members to that organization and to supplement or cooperate with its activities.

Last year the Kentucky group worked on two projects. One of these was the distribution of publicity and information about the A.L.A. Retirement Plan. By letters, circulars, etc., young librarians in the state were informed about the rates and urged to join while the lower rates were still in effect. On the other project, the Junior Members assisted in the campaigns for both state and national library legislation.

Tennessee

Officers, 1938-39

Chairman: Walter H. Kaiser, Tennessee Valley Authority, Chattanooga, Tennessee.
Secretary: Viola Tansey, Public Library, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The Junior Members of Tennessee have had one project for the past year and that has been the editing and publishing of *Tennessee Libraries*. From June 1931 to January 1933 this publication appeared monthly until lack of funds forced its discontinuance. At the meeting of the Tennessee Library Association in October 1937 a resolution was adopted to revive this publication and the offer made by the Junior Members to assume editorial responsibilities for it was accepted. The purpose of *Tennessee Libraries* is to keep not only the members of the Association but other interested groups informed of library services and need in Tennessee. It is published to serve as the official organ of the Tennessee Library Association and to aid in extending, coordinating, and recording library service in Tennessee. The editorial board of *Tennessee Libraries* is:

Walter H. Kaiser, Editor
Mary Marsh, College Section
Mildred Looney, School Library Section
Estellene P. Walker, Public Library Section

A. L. A. NOTES

By Edwin E. Williams

Radio Series

THE Columbia Broadcasting System is now presenting a series of twenty-six broadcasts designed to show the contributions of various cultural groups to the social, economic and political development of the United States. The series is presented by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Education, and the Columbia Broadcasting System with the cooperation of the Service Bureau for Intercultural Education and with the assistance of the W.P.A. Programs are scheduled for every Sunday afternoon at 2 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, and the series runs until May 7. Special leaflets prepared to supplement each of the broadcasts are available on request, free of charge, from the Office of Education, Washington, D.C. Announcements of the series suggest that listeners obtain books on the subject from their libraries.

Travel to San Francisco

No A.L.A. Travel Committee has been appointed this year and there will be no A.L.A. sponsored travel to or from the Conference, and no A.L.A. sponsored post-conference trips.

The Association will not select any route as official among the many available, but will cooperate with all transportation companies in any appropriate way.

General announcements of travel information will appear in the A.L.A. *Bulletin.*

W. P. A. Projects

In response to protests from librarians concerning the use of the terms "librarian" and "library" in connection with W.P.A. toy lending centers, transmitted by the A.L.A. Board of Education for Librarianship to the W.P.A., Mrs. Ellen S. Woodward, Assistant Administrator has written:

"We wish to thank you for calling to our attention the misuse of the terms 'library' and 'librarian'. . .

"We are writing to our Regional Directors, asking that toy loan projects in their regions be investigated, and where the terms 'library' and 'librarian' are used, the project supervisors be instructed to change the nomenclature to one which will accurately describe the work done."

Board of Education

The Board of Education for Librarianship has completely a survey of library training and personnel in Indiana and is sponsoring a survey in Michigan by John S. Cleavinger, Associate Professor of Library Service, on leave from Columbia University School of Library Service. Both surveys, requested by the state library associations, were conducted by the Board under a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Trustee and Citizen Organizations

A trustees section has just been organized in the Michigan Library Association, and a trustees round table has been organized in Minnesota.

States in which associations or sections for trustees are active now include California, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Texas. There is also a trustees section of the Pacific Northwest Library Association.

S. B. Berry of Hattiesburg is the new chairman of the Mississippi Citizens' Library Movement. Other groups of this sort are functioning in California, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, and Vermont.

Library Extension Agencies

Reports from state library extension agencies, as received by the A.L.A. Library Extension Board, include the following news items:

The new Nova Scotia Library Commission has begun work, with Nora Bateson as Director of Libraries. Miss Bateson, who is the Canadian member of the Library Extension Board, has conducted a three year regional experiment in Prince Edward Island, and recently surveyed library conditions and needs in Nova Scotia, for the provincial government.

Establishment of a state library agency is sought in Alabama, and reorganization plans have been proposed in Colorado, Idaho, and Washington.

The Oregon State Library will soon complete the work of moving into its new building.

THE SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION

By Mae Graham

[This monthly department about school libraries is prepared for the Wilson Bulletin under the direction of the School Libraries Section, American Library Association. All school librarians are invited to utilize this department for the discussion of their problems. Inquiries and contributions should be sent to Mae Graham, Department of Library Science, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.]

A Monthly Question?

How long do you keep back numbers of indexed periodicals which you do not have bound? By "indexed" we mean included in the *Readers' Guide* or the *Abridged Readers' Guide.*

SCHOOL librarians who are interested in having common problems discussed, are invited to send their questions to the editor of this page, at the address given above. A question will be printed each month, together with the answers to the previous month's question that have been sent to the editor by librarians who have found practical solutions to the problems.

This feature will be added only if responses indicate the need for it.

Book Display Devices

The following suggestions for advertising books were sent in by Emma E. Snyder, librarian of the Lincoln High School, Lincoln, Nebraska. The devices have been used successfully by Miss Snyder in her library.

1. Much interest was shown in a display case exhibit of books of biography which I had recently. Pictures of prominent persons were pasted on bristol board and cut out. Tiny standards were placed on the backs so the figures would stand. These figures were arranged in various positions in front of the books. Where possible "cut outs" of the biographies were used—Madame Curie, Edison, Grenfell, Byrd, Shelley, etc. Possibly ten in all were used.

2. Our English classes are required to read some non-fiction. In order to help them in making their selection, one of my student assistants has made a scrap book about 12″ x 20″. The pages are black. On these she pasted the colorful back strips from book jackets to look like a row of books on a shelf. These are grouped—biography, travel, animal life, miscellaneous. The book numbers have been placed upon the back strips to aid pupils in locating the books. An interesting picture of an Indian chief on horseback, probably from a *Saturday Evening Post,* has been placed on the cover and the caption *Interesting Nonfiction.*

3. Small posters have been made to illustrate various classes of books. These are placed on the shelves in their respective sections to guide pupils. For example the poster on government is illustrated by a donkey and an elephant from a *Literary Digest* cover with the caption *Government.* Biography has pictures of various noted persons and the caption *Interesting Lives.* For science the poster is a colorful picture of two persons using a microscope, etc.

Library-Teacher Cooperation

Three examples of excellent cooperation between teachers and the school librarian are given below. The first two are from the West Seattle High School Library, Seattle, Wash., and the third from the Hatboro High School, Hatboro, Pa. We quote from the accounts received:

Choosing the Cast

"An inspired teacher of the uninspired low mentalities was last year convinced that those in her class were probably better informed about movie stars and movies than any thing else so quietly she gathered in her room a representative armful of books which simply didn't appeal to her bunch. She pointed out a few of the outstanding characters in the stories, making their situations rather dramatic—using her own rich imagination. Then they discussed their characters and who might fit that part among the movie world they knew. There was for the first time in the room, a ripple of life and interest. They chose stars for many of the parts. She described to them the great books that already were dramatized, many of them, of course had seen the plays. She had them read their formerly unpopular Dickens and Dumas. The talk led to relative merits and opportunities for their chosen star in these new situations in books that were good literature. They were carefully read not for a minute because of the rating as literature or for a grade or even to please the teacher but to find proper dramatic incidents that these movie fans felt would give their stars a real chance on the screen. You would be surprised how worn and dirty and nice the otherwise unused books became . . . how unconsciously these students had demonstrated to them the beauty, art and technique of careful writing."

Outstanding Descriptions

"Another teacher of grammar three years ago interested her class in a business-like file of outstanding descriptions. Students chose various subjects—not too obvious ones—generally human traits such as results of anger, the way folks walked, ate, ran their cars after emotions of various sorts—jealousy for another girl, or the boy friend, the feeling clothes give one, a girls first job or a fellow's losing his job, a scene at home between members of a family quarrelling, death of a father, or the baby. . . . They scoured books otherwise a little dull because of description! They gloated over Dickens, Hardy, Bennett. The teacher had an arrangement with the school paper whereby the news reporter called on the class for many quoted bits of description when the occasion demanded. While started simply as an encouragement, it ended in a valuable file. Books mildly scorned before and neglected came into their own."

The Dance of the Readers

"We have, during the past few years, used the dance to illustrate certain books which are otherwise too difficult to present. Ordinarily we present a book by taking a scene or high spot from it and dramatize it in costume.

"Langdon-Davies's book, *Inside the Atom,* does not fit this type of presentation. Accordingly I worked with a group of seventh and eighth graders on a dance that would illustrate the combination of combustible materials or fire molecules, as we call them, which are finally quenched by a still larger combination of water molecules. It is difficult to describe a dance but it begins with the water molecules, whose costumes were tie-dyed robes in rainbow colors grouped in a circle to resemble a huge bubble of water. Hidden by them and in the very center are two fire molecules in red robes with long red chiffon scarfs. As the water molecules separate and dance away, the two fires molecules escape and start combustion, combining their efforts and twirling their long red scarfs to spread the flames. There is a struggle between the two elements and the water molecules finally overwhelm and quench the fire molecules and return them to their original positions. We used 'Humoresque' by Tchaikovsky for the dance. The steps were suggested by the students. I am sure any physical education teacher could work out suitable steps as we did for the dance.

"We are now working on a rhythmic dance which represents a full rigged clipper ship to illustrate *Trade Winds.* The motions interpret the heavy, rather lumbering ship as it glides ponderously out of the harbor, raises its sails, picks up speed and is tossed vigorously as it meets the ocean currents. The hands of the dancers reach out to their sides as the sails do, seeking to pick up the winds and finally sailing at top speed the ship rocks gently in the ocean swell while sailors busily hoist the main-sail ropes and the sheets billow out. (These motions are done with very full circular body motions—double arm-circle, double-roll or deep-knee bend twice and other bending and swaying motions.) The ship prepares to put into port again and the motions become more calm, finally subsiding altogether as the sails are lowered. This dance is interesting if done in divided order with a certain number in each group doing a given motion at the same time that another group does a different but related motion.

"*Buried Cities* by Jennie Hall we did by studying Greek friezes in the illustrations, constructing stick figure sketches, studying these or re-arranging them to work into a logical dance sequence. This is an easy dance as the dancers form certain postural formations. For example the center figure holds aloft a huge, silver platter the two figures on either side raise garlands of flowers and the two end figures kneel beside their large water jugs. Our dance represented young maidens engaged in a spring festival ceremony. The music was 'In a Persian Market Place'. . . . . 'The Princess Theme,' and it seemed adapted to the smooth dignified motions. There were about eight complete pictures each of which represented a Greek vase painting scene recaptured for the moment."

Section Dues

SCHOOL LIBRARIANS! Again it is time to pay your A.L.A. dues, and—your Section dues. The School Libraries Section is *your* section: it aims to create and uphold school library standards; to stimulate school library work thru its programs at the annual A.L.A. and Midwinter conferences thru publicity, lists, published articles, etc. In other words, it aims to help *you.* It needs your support. Let's make this the banner year in membership. When you pay your A.L.A. dues, send your section dues, fifty cents for one year, or one dollar for two years, to Iva Winterfield, Treasurer, Technical High School, Omaha, Nebraska, with any suggestions you may have for further section activities.

The *North Carolina School Library Handbook* has been reprinted, and can be obtained from Mrs. Mary Peacock Douglas, School Library Adviser, State Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, North Carolina, for 20 cents a copy.

The Month at Random

Volume 13 Number 5

WILSON BULLETIN
FOR LIBRARIANS

January 1939

THE leading article in our October issue, "The Myth of Library Impartiality," by Bernard Berelson, has excited much favorable comment from our readers. We are particularly gratified to receive evidence that small libraries, in villages remote from the cosmopolitan storm-centers of contemporary ideas, are alive to the necessity of defending and strengthening the liberal tradition, which lies at the heart not only of our public library system but of our nation and of our civilization as well.

In the Tonkawa, Oklahoma, *News* the local librarian, Edna Porter, recently quoted Mr. Berelson's statement that "men and women in a democracy must understand clearly the processes of social change in order that this change may be wisely directed and controlled. Knowledge has social as well as individual utility, a consideration the library has been slow to recognize." Mrs. Porter's comment, addressed to the townspeople of Tonkawa, reads:

"In studying the remarks of Mr. Berelson, we find ourselves faced with these questions, 'How much of the budget should be spent for recreational reading?' 'Shall the library board formulate a program for each year and assist the librarian in carrying out this program, and shall this program be directed along the educational lines mentioned in the excerpts from Mr. Berelson's article?'

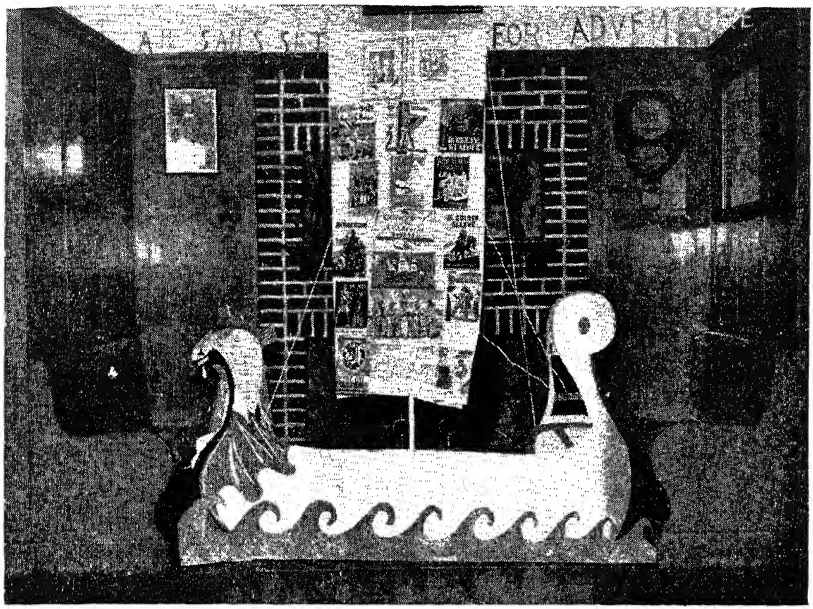
"A large number of the families of any town can supply the recreational reading for themselves, with a little judicious planning for books and magazines and exchange with neighbors, but very few families can furnish all the research material and non-fiction reading necessary for the individual family. Such reading material is expensive and the cost is prohibitive to the average family. Sometimes this material is printed in limited editions and may be out of print. Here is where your public library can play an important part. With the help of the citizens in preserving all material placed in a library, the library may each year add a little to its store of non-fiction material and in time have a worthwhile treasure house of education material. It does not necessarily follow that this material is so dry and ponderous that it is almost unreadable by the average person. Such material may be as entertaining as a novel, believe it or not.

"We must get away from the idea that the library must be almost entirely a circulating library of fiction however worthy and inspiring the fiction is, and we must recognize the fact that a library may be a cultural center for the individual as a person and as a citizen, and there should be nothing in the management and conduct of a library to discourage the acquisition of high ideals, the observance of the laws of any division of our municipalities, and the respect for the rights of others."

The action of the Federal Communications Commission in clamping down on broadcasting companies for putting the works of certain authors on the air has been denounced as "obnoxious censorship" smacking of European dictatorship by Dr. Milton James Ferguson, President of the American Library Association. Addressing the Connecticut Library Association in Bushnell Memorial on November 10, he declared the libraries of the country must be kept free from such censorship if they were to serve their highest purpose of supplying information to all people on all subjects without fear or favor.

Dr. Ferguson cited the action of the federal authorities in putting a Minneapolis station on the carpet for broadcasting Eugene O'Neill's *Beyond the Horizon* and the pressure brought upon the company responsible for Orson Welles' recent broadcast of H. G. Wells' *War of the Worlds.*

"I am concerned with the threat to the independence of the public library inherent in such an attitude," he said. "There must be no such obnoxious censorship placed upon the library as dispenser of literature and information to the people. I am personally opposed to communism and fascism, but I would fight to the last ditch any attempt in my own library to withhold books on communism and fascism from its readers. The public library must be kept a free agent at all costs."



ALL SAILS SET FOR ADVENTURE
An effective book display, based on a Viking ship made to scale. at the Cheney Free Public Library, Hoosick Falls, N. Y.

Dr. Ferguson, the first A.L.A. president to address the Connecticut association, also emphasized the need for a "better deal" for librarians, particularly in hours and wages. He said he had found on a library tour of the Midwest and South last month that many librarians were working more than forty hours a week. This allowed them no time to keep abreast of the publications they were passing out to the public, much less to improve their professional status, he said.

Provisions of his bill to establish five Federal regional libraries in easily accessible population centers of the United States were recently explained by library-minded Representative Collins of Mississippi to the District of Columbia Library Association.

District library executives and librarians gave Mr. Collins' measure a strongly favorable reception and referred it to their Federal Relations Committee for study and a suitable recommendation of indorsement.

"The necessity for developing the Nation's library facilities is becoming more and more obvious," Mr. Collins said. "Libraries and their benefits offer rich returns not only today, but to generations to come."

He pointed out that five regional libraries would serve citizens unable to come to Washington for Government records and books in the Congressional Library, assure preservation of Federal documents in time of war, especially if Washington's libraries were menaced or destroyed by an enemy, and aid scholars and education generally.

The regional libraries, under his bill introduced last year, would be located at New York City, Memphis, Chicago, Denver, and San Francisco. He said he had received hundreds of letters from all over the country in behalf of the bill and predicted its early indorsement by the American Library Association.

The Collins bill would provide also the deposit of new Government documents in the proposed regional libraries and would amend the copyright laws to require printing of sufficient copies of each registration for the libraries.

Dr. George F. Bowerman, public librarian, declared after Mr. Collins' speech that the association should indorse his bill, and in conformance with its custom, moved the measure be referred to committee. The motion was adopted unanimously.

"Micro-film is the solution to the newspaper problem—not only is it the librarians' heaven but the readers' paradise," said Ralph H. Carruthers, in charge of photography at the New

York Public Library, at a dinner meeting of the Newspaper Group of the Special Libraries Association in New York City.

Announcement was made at the meeting of the completion of a large unit in the microfilming project now under way at the *Herald Tribune* in cooperation with the Recordak Corporation. This is the microfilming of the complete back files of the New York *Tribune* and New York *Herald Tribune* from 1841 to 1934, and also represents the largest project undertaken by Recordak. The unit just completed is the run from 1914 to 1934.

Announcement was also made of an important new project to be started soon. This is the microfilming of the New York Tribune Index from 1875 to 1906. This index has long been out of print and has been almost impossible to obtain. It is the only newspaper index and index of events for that period in existence.

Halsey W. Wilson, President of The H. W. Wilson Company led a group discussion on the possibilities of cooperation of the Special Libraries Association in the compilation of the new edition of the Union List of Serials. Much interest was manifested in the proposal.

For the first time the American Prison Association has gone on record in support of prison libraries. At a dinner of the American Prison Congress in St. Paul on October 4, the establishment of a standing Committee on Institution Libraries was announced, with the following resolution:

"Be it Resolved, That the American Prison Association in announcing the establishment of a standing Committee on Institution Libraries, expresses its belief in the value of the library in penal and correctional institutions, both as an agency of education and of wholesome recreation."

The chairman of the committee is Mildred L. Methven, Supervisor of Institution Libraries, State Board of Control, St. Paul, Minn.

In announcing the publication of his sixtieth book, a novel called *Little Steel,* Upton Sinclair reports that he has prepared a new edition of his bibliography, *Books of Upton Sinclair in Translations and Foreign Editions.* This 48-page pamphlet shows 772 titles in 47 languages and 39 countries. Among the languages are Catalan, Tadjik, Karelian, Cyrillian, Tamil, Gujurati, Marathi, Urdu, Telegu. The evidence would seem to support Mr. Sinclair's contention that he is the most widely read of living authors. "To friends of my books," he writes, "I point out that this 48-page pamphlet is a weapon for the opening of people's eyes. Pass it around, and then deposit it in some public library or the library of a university. It has cost 25 cents to produce, and you may pay for it if you can afford to." The bibliography may be ordered from Upton Sinclair, 424 Madison Ave., New York.

To give research workers thruout the country access to further materials for their work, a Bibliofilm Service has been opened in the Library of the Geological Survey, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. Thru the courtesy of Guy E. Mitchell, Librarian, it is now possible for a scholar anywhere to order copied any properly copyable extracts from the quarter million books, journals and rare materials in this leading scientific library, as well as many of its fifty thousand maps.

Bibliofilm Service is operated on a non-profit basis by the American Documentation Institute under a cooperative agreement with the Library of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and also maintains copying installations in that library and the Army Medical Library. It acts as a national clearing house for copying orders for research materials, filling them thru its own and other services, for materials located in substantially all Washington and Baltimore libraries, bureaus and institutions and in other cities here and abroad.

Copying is done in either of two forms: microfilm (a series of still images on 35 mm. standard safety photographic film comfortably usable in reading machines now widely available) at 1 cent per page, plus fixed service charge of 20 cents; or in the form of photoprints (6 x 8 in. legible without optical aid) at 10 cents per page, plus service charge of 20 cents.

Inquiry should be in the form of a definite order for the copying of specific materials; if available and properly copyable the order will be filled. Order blanks making a letter unnecessary are available free on request. Remittance must accompany order, or an amount of $5 or more may be sent to open the usual deposit account which saves the bother of remitting small sums. Information on reading machines may be obtained from Science Service, Washington, D.C., who also supply a hand viewer invented by Dr. Atherton Seidell, suitable for reading short extracts, at $1.50.

Remittance for copying material in the Geological Library, or material in other fields located in other libraries, should be made payable to American Documentation Institute and all orders for copying should be mailed therewith to Bibliofilm Service, care U. S. Department of Agriculture Library, Washington, D.C.

The Index Number Institute, New Haven, Conn., founded by Professor Irving Fisher, professor emeritus of economics at Yale, has

reprinted a number of articles, mostly by Professor Fisher, on economic subjects, that it will supply free in any reasonable number to libraries, teachers, students, and others interested. Write to the Index Number Institute for its "List of Reprints and Pamphlets."

Publishers are more than pleased to supply college librarians with extra copies of their catalogs for distribution to the faculty and interested students. Edward A. Noyes, of the Columbia University Press, reminds us of this in a letter that reads:

"One of the college librarians who got a copy of our fall catalog surprised us in a way that may interest you. He requested a lot of twenty-five additional copies, to be set aside on a table in the reading room, for distribution to students and faculty members who use the library. We filled his 'order' with pleasure, and discovered that he has done that sort of thing for a good many years, for fifteen or twenty other publishers. If by any chance this practice is unique or extraordinary, are there not other college libraries that would do the same thing if told that additional catalogs are available?"

The *Social Hygiene Year Book for 1938* (reprint of May-June issue *Journal of Social Hygiene*) is another in the annual series of reviews of social hygiene progress in the United States by the American Social Hygiene Association. This year's edition testifies by its greatly increased bulk to the amazing growth in nation-wide interest and action regarding social hygiene problems, and especially the national campaign against syphilis. The *Year Book,* intended for general reference, is planned for especial use of librarians. Price, 75 cents a copy postpaid.

The sixth annual Library Number (October) of the *Journal* is another recent library aid, with the usual full bibliographies of standard and new literature, book reviews and other handy reference information.

For information on other useful numbers of the Journal and other Association publications and materials, and special privileges available thru Association Library Membership service, ask for free folders No. A-144 *The Journal of Social Hygiene as Permanent Reference Material*; A-166 *A Classified List of Social Hygiene Pamphlets*; A-19 *Books on Social Hygiene*; A-130 *Social Hygiene Exhibits*; and A-131 *Seeing and Hearing Social Hygiene* (films and records).

Write to the American Social Hygiene Association, 50 West 50 Street, New York City.

"You are invited to join your professional associates in the one organization whose object is the advancement of library work with children—the American Library Association Section for Library Work with Children. The quality of all Section activities, our yearly programs, our book lists, our publicity, depends on memberships. Give us your support by mailing $1.00 to the treasurer, Miss Alice Brunat, Public Library, Minneapolis, Minn."

CLARA E. BREED, *Chairman*
Membership Committee

To provide more adequate occupational information and data on job opportunities, a new non-profit organization, Science Research Associates, has recently been formed in Chicago. A broad research program is being carried on, guided by an Advisory Council of men prominent in a number of fields. These include:

Dr. Floyd Reeves, Professor of Education, Dr. W. F. Ogburn, Professor of Sociology, and Dr. H. A. Millis, Professor of Economics, of the University of Chicago; Dr. Homer Rainey, Director of the American Youth Commission; Dr. Harry Kitson, Professor of Education at Columbia University; George E. Hutcherson, Chief of the Bureau of Guidance of the New York State Board of Education; and Dr. William Stead, Director of Research of the United States Employment Service.

A number of publications are being issued: *Vocational Trends*—a monthly magazine of occupational facts and forecasts, written in a live, readable style, particularly for young people ($2.50 a year); monthly occupational monographs (50 cents each), the first title being *Opportunities for Statistical Workers*; *Vocational Guide-Index,* which is a monthly classification of current occupational material ($4.00 a year); selected reprints and abstracts, issued monthly, of inaccessible or costly materials high in occupational value ($3.00 a year); basic plans for community participation thru vocational conferences, work discovery projects, and other programs ($4.00 a year). Combination offers are available and inquiries should be addressed to Lyle M. Spencer, Director, 600 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

The American Library Association, Section for Library Work with Children, announces the following Committee chairmen for the year 1938-39:

Book Evaluation—Alice E. Brown, Duluth Public Library
Book Production—Elizabeth Bevier Hamilton, Harcourt, Brace and Company
International—Jean Thomson, Toronto Public Library
Professional Training—Mary R. Lucas, Providence Public Library
Publicity—Ruth P. Tubby, Montclair Public Library
Membership—Clara E. Breed, San Diego Public Library
Hospitality Committee—Natalie Mayo, San Francisco Public Library

The Mail Bag

[EDITOR'S NOTE: The correspondence columns of the *Wilson Bulletin* are open to all our readers for debate and comment. The Editor is not responsible for opinions expressed in these columns.]

The "War Between the Sexes"

To the Editor:

A factual attack has been made on the impression that men have the major portion of library administrative positions in the article by R. S. Alvarez, appearing in the *Wilson Bulletin* for November 1938. Without entering into the urgency or seriousness of the problem, one comment must be made on this Thurberian "war between the sexes" which now appears to be in progress.

The author is to be commended for his diligence in assembling these facts, but one element of the picture has been omitted which, when considered, would change the tone of the article thruout and materially affect its conclusions. That element is the total number of librarians. Of this total what percentage are men; what percentage are women? The U. S. Census has the professional classification, "Librarians," and gives the number of men and women librarians for each state.[1] The number of librarians is 27,545, of which 25,099 are women and 2,446 are men. Hence, it is not enough to say that 40 per cent of the libraries with over 100,000 volumes have women as librarians. For clarity, let's place the statistics for two classes of libraries in columns.

	Libraries over 100,000 volumes	*Libraries 20,000 to 100,000*
Number of libraries	317	968
Percentage of libraries which have men as chief librarians	60%	20%
Percentage of men to total number of librarians ...	8.9%	8.9%
Percentage of libraries which have women as chief librarians	40%	80%
Percentage of women to total number of librarians	91.1%	91.1%
Percentage advantage to men	51.1%	11.1%

None of the figures presented in the article shows the women to have their proportionate share of the administrative positions. It would be unkind and inaccurate in view of these figures to say that women "have as good a chance of reaching the top as do their male colleagues."

W. H. KAISER
T.V.A. Technical Library
Chattanooga, Tenn.

[1] U. S. Bureau of Census 15th 1930 Population V. 4 Occupations Table 4.

Small Library Constructions

To Readers of The Wilson Bulletin:

One librarian has been imaginative enough to paint a cheese box for a charging tray and to have a local carpenter construct a desk out of some old cupboard doors. Have you, too, made use of materials at hand to equip your small library? If you have, and if the experiment has been satisfactory, won't you share it with other librarians thruout the country who are constantly asking for just such suggestions.

Perhaps the manual training class in your school has made a magazine rack; perhaps the local carpenter has built shelves; maybe the bulletin board has been achieved by some ingenious planning. Whatever luck you have had—and by "you" I mean the librarian of the small town and village who cannot afford the excellent products put out by the leading commercial houses—please send me photographs and drawings, measurements, and descriptions not forgetting to include the cost and date of construction and the type of wood and finish used. To be of use, this information should reach me *soon*.

ELIZABETH T. WILLIAMS
15 Woodland Street
Hartford, Conn.

The Collacquering Process

To the Editor:

A new and revolutionary process called Collacquering has been developed which makes all types of papers more durable, water repellent, and impervious to finger prints and dirt. It is called Collacquering and was developed by The Collacquer Process of New York. Paper treated by this process becomes more flexible and more resistant to tearing.

Tests performed by the Electrical Testing Laboratories for the Collacquer Process show a material increase in the folding, tearing and bursting strength of four selected papers; a #1 sulphite, a 50 per cent rag sheet, a 100 per cent rag sheet and newsprint. Print becomes more legible after being Collacquered. Volumes which are in need of repair may be Collacquered without being taken apart; an important saving. After printed or written documents have been Collacquered, no alterations may be made which cannot be instantly detected; however, additions may be made over the Collacquered surface, if desired. Collacquering gives new life to old paper and by a unique process of mounting possible only with this process, maps and historical docu-

ments may be preserved. By Collacquering the bindings of much used books the durability of the covers is materially increased. Tears in paper can be mended speedily and easily and the tabbing of papers for more margin before binding can be made so strong that it cannot be torn at the bond of paper and tab. Furthermore when material which has been treated with Japanese tissue is Collacquered, it can satisfactorily be photographed and photostated, whereas before such treatment it could not.

Field tests performed at the City College Library indicated that Collacquering increased the life of heavily used periodicals. At the New York Public Library a test order was given to the Collacquer Process to Collacquer and tab the *New York Times* Sept. 1-10 inclusive (including one Sunday edition). The bound volume is in the Newspaper room of the Library in continual service.

The Collacquer process is materially superior and much lower in cost than any other process.

GEORGE E. NELSON, *Assistant Lib'n College of the City of New York*

Our Biographical Sketches

To the Editor:

We feel grateful to you for the "author write-ups" in the front of each *Bulletin*. Having just gone over seven years' supply of *Bulletins*, we have garnered a goodly number of these clippings for the vertical file. We are pasting them on cardboard and in the upper-left hand corner of each marking the first two letters of the last name in large letters. Then these can be filed alphabetically under some larger caption such as Biography—Authors. We use the Wilson books of authors constantly and find them invaluable. We find however many people want to take something home on authors and since these books are Reference the clippings are already reaching a large public altho the project is just under way. We further find that each month this article can be clipped out to keep the collection timely without interfering with other matter in the *Bulletin*. Thank you!

HAZEL HAAGENSEN
Children's librarian
Cranford, N. J.

Interavailability of Borrowers' Cards

To the Editor:

Much has been said about the formation of Union Catalogs, and I have heard that American librarians are keenly interested in the Regional Library Bureaux in England.

I should like to call your attention to another method whereby the service given by a library may be considerably increased at very little expense. I refer to the interavailability of borrowers' cards.

Towns and cities which have large library systems are in the habit of allowing any person who joins to use his card at any or all of the libraries within the system.

It seems desirable that anybody who has a card should be able to borrow books from any public library that may be convenient at the time. Naturally the borrower must return his books to the correct library after use. People travel for long periods, or set up home for three or more months in another district, or maybe they only take a vacation at some resort for a few weeks. Yet they would like to use the library.

In England the practice is rapidly increasing whereby chief librarians agree to accept at their libraries the cards presented by people from a distant library. The *Library Association Record* for October 1936 and July 1937 contains announcements illustrating the method whereby this is arranged.

Yes, but what if books are lost, you say. How can we proceed to recover either the books or their value? Whenever an out-of-town card is presented a more detailed record will be kept. Any subsequent overdue or loss can be followed up, or if unsuccessful, reported to the library from which the borrower came.

Why should people use our cards to borrow elsewhere? We lose so much patronage and support for increasing our own library. Is that so serious after all? Do we not desire the library profession thruout the country and the world to grow and grow, and also come closer together in its facilities?

In my home of Birmingham, England, an ever-growing list of libraries which have expressed their willingness to cooperate in this way has been drawn up and is displayed in every one of the city's branches.

We are proud of our Regional Bureaux and the National Central Library thru which a person can call upon the millions of books in the British Isles and beyond that, for rare and special works, upon the libraries of the world. We are proud of our Exchange Request system whereby a book may be transferred from one branch library to another in a few hours.

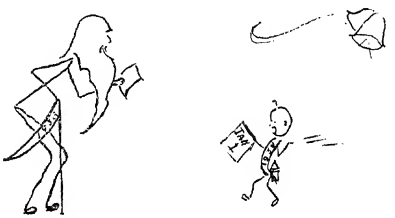
I suggest that this scheme of making borrowers' cards interavailable between libraries up and down the country is another way in which we can enlarge our service to the mutual benefit of all concerned.

H. ALLAN WHATLEY, *Branch Librarian*
Birmingham, England
["Exchange"—Montclair, N.J., Public Library]

THE LIGHTHOUSE

A Summing Up

RING out the old, ring in the new, thus lightly are the years dismissed, except by this department which believes (if you will forgive us) in "ringing in" the old to serve a useful end.



So to this purpose, we begin 1939 by giving you a checklist of the books and services, new in 1938, that have been faithfully reported in these pages.

New Services

The Bibliographic Index
Sets of Printed Catalog Cards

New Books

Baird. Representative American Speeches: 1937-1938
Beers. Bibliographies in American History
Fitzgerald. The World War (Reading for Background)
Garland and Phillips. Discussion Methods Explained and Illustrated (Reference Shelf)
——Government Spending and Economic Recovery (Contemporary Social Problems: Discussion Series)
Gilchrist. Doctoral Dissertations. No. V
Gosnell. Spanish Personal Names
Gregory. International Congresses and Conferences: A Union List
Heller. Mathematics: Queen of Sciences (Reading for Background)
Hurley. Key to the Out-of-Doors
Index and Key to "Literary Characters Drawn from Life"
Johnsen. Chinese-Japanese War, 1937- (Reference Shelf)
——Peace and Rearmament (Reference Shelf)
——United States Foreign Policy: Isolation or Alliance (Reference Shelf)
Kunitz and Haycraft. American Authors
Lockhart. My Vocation: By Eminent Americans
Magriel. Supplement to "A Bibliography of Dancing"
Munson. Poetry for High Schools (Reading for Background)
NYLA Interracial Lists
Nichols. State Sales Tax (Reference Shelf)
——Pump-priming Theory of Government Spending (Reference Shelf)
Pettus. Subject Headings in Education
Phelps. Book and Library Plays
——University Debaters' Annual
Proceedings of the First Convention of the Inter-American Bibliographical and Library Association.
Stoddard. Communication Thru the Ages (Reading for Background)
Summers. Anglo-American Agreement (Reference Shelf)
——Dictatorships vs. Democracies: 1938 (Reference Shelf)
Ramsey. Educational Work in American Museums
van Buren. Quotations for Special Occasions

New Editions

Bennett. Occupations and Vocational Guidance
——Student Library Assistant
Brown. The Library Key
Connors. Practical Bibliography Making
Price and Ticen. Index to Vocations
Shankle. State Names, Flags, Seals, Songs, Birds, Flowers
Wenman. Subject Headings for the Information File

New Importations

Ackery. Electrical Heating for Public and Commercial Libraries and Museums, etc.
Gray. Public Library Finance
Japan-Manchoukuo Year Book 1938
Partridge. History of the Legal Deposit of Books Thruout the British Empire
Ranganathan. Prolegomena to Library Classification
Sharp. Branch Libraries: Modern Problems and Administration
South American Handbook
Survey of Libraries

New Agency

New Larned History (on the service basis)

Dictatorships versus Democracies

In the words of Mr. Whalen and the New York World's Fair Committee, "time tears on" and so do we. By the time this announcement reaches you we shall have ready *Dictatorships versus Democracies: 1938* (supplement to Anglo-American Agreement. H. B. Summers. Reference Shelf), a collection of leading articles chosen and dovetailed to give a clear picture of the recent developments in world affairs, in the light of which any future relations with Great Britain must now be considered. Among the articles excerpted, are:

Surrender at Munich. Robert Dell, Geneva correspondent for the Manchester Guardian
Consequences of the Munich Settlement. Bruce Bliven, editor, The New Republic
America's Responsibility in World Affairs. Francis B. Sayre
Cooperation for Peace. Winston Churchill
Japan and the Open Door. Nathaniel Peffer
Black Shirts in Latin America. Carleton Beals

A selected bibliography is also included.

New Idea Clicks

127 libraries in 32 states have placed standing orders for more than 12,000 copies of the *Readers' Choice of Best Books* (See page 343) for distribution to their patrons. The attainment of this circulation within the first thirty days is as gratifying as it is amazing. Certainly, the long felt need thruout the library world for inexpensive promotion material, unprejudiced by advertising patronage, seems at last to have been filled.

Commentary on the Indexing Problem

Acknowledging a copy of our reprint from the *Library Journal* of "A Preliminary Survey of Indexes and Abstracting Services" and our reply to it, a library school director, writes:

"After a careful study of the statement made by the committee and of the reply by The Wilson Company, the Library School staff believes that the arguments advanced by The Wilson Company are incontrovertible and that the future study of the indexing problem must be based to a large extent on the practical experience acquired by The Wilson Company during its forty years of service to the library profession."

Copies of the reprint and The Wilson Company's reply are still available for those who may wish them.

A Book Editor's Plea

The children's book editor of a prominent publishing house writes us:

"The annual avalanche of requests from school kids is pouring in, 'Please send biography—,' and they list almost anyone whose books may be found in school and public libraries. Wouldn't it be a golden Boy Scout deed to circularize the school and public libraries on your mailing list that unless they want funerals in many publishing houses they should buy your authors books, and especially The Junior Book of Authors? I think it is a Girl Scout deed that we advise you!"

Since most school libraries already possess copies of the authors books (*Living Authors, Authors Today and Yesterday, The Junior Book of Authors, British Authors of the Nineteenth Century,* and *American Authors*), our correspondent's plaintive note would seem to indicate that many of the needless requests for biographical information are coming from schools where the material is easily available in the schools' own libraries.

If you are a school librarian, be sure that your English teachers *know* that you have a world of information about authors right at your fingertips. In some schools, extra classroom copies of the authors books ought to be made available.

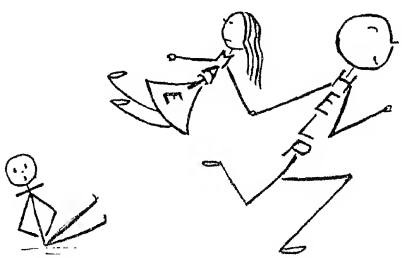
Index to Short Stories

In response to inquiries and in accordance with replies to a recent questionnaire, a new basic volume of Miss Firkins' *Index to Short Stories* will be published. This new volume will contain in one alphabet the material now in the 1923, 1929, and 1936 volumes together with all new indexing to bring the Index up to date. There is still the question of making the dividing lines between this Index, the periodical indexes, and the new Fiction Catalog. If, as indicated by returns from the questionnaire, libraries wish short stories other than those included in a published collection indexed in the *Index to Short Stories* it is necessary to determine just how many others to include. If this Index should attempt to list every short story which had appeared in a periodical or as a separate publication or in a collection of short stories, the task would be endless. Such collections as the one by O'Brien will be indexed. It might be possible to locate other published stories by authors represented in such collections thru the periodical indexes and include them in the *Index to Short Stories.* The editor would be grateful for an expression of opinion from other librarians on this question of the scope of the *Index to Short Stories.*

After studying the questionnaire it was decided to include in the *19th Century Readers' Guide* all the short stories in the magazines indexed.

Compounding English Words

Are there any rules for compounding English words? There are rules and more rules, but surprisingly little uniformity of opinion among the various compilers of dictionaries and stylebooks.[1]



Alice M. Ball, well known for her studies in compounding of words, especially for her work on the new Style Manual of the United

[1] Webster's International Dictionary—*stylebook*
Funk and Wagnall's New Standard Dictionary —*style-book*

States Department of State, in *Compounding in the English Language: A Comparative Review of Variant Authorities with a Rational System for General Use and a Comprehensive List of Compound Words,* now in press, renders an important service to librarians, writers, editors, publishers, and printers who must put principles into practice.

For quick reference, the book gives a comprehensive, alphabetic list of compound words, where the searcher can easily find the word he wants, correctly written.

Poster Contest Winners

The Judging Committee of The H. W. Wilson Company and the Junior Members Round Table of the American Library Association announce the winners of the Second Library Poster Contest.

1st prize $25.00
Ruth Whaley, Moore Institute of Art, Philadelphia, Pa.

2nd prize $20.00
Joseph Eisenstadt, 2091 Prospect Avenue, Bronx, N.Y.

3rd prize $15.00
Mary Herr, Moore Institute of Art, Philadelphia, Pa.

4th prize $10.00
Frank Malus, 441 East 75th Street, New York, N.Y.

5th prize $5.00
Jack Elliott Pincus and Herbert Luballin, Cooper Union, New York, N.Y.

6th prize $5.00
M. A. Zamparelli, 2425 Lorillard Place, Bronx, N.Y.

7th prize $5.00
Herman Olinsky, 16 Marvin Avenue, Hempstead, Long Island, N.Y.

8th prize $5.00
Charles Stone, Textile High School, New York, N.Y.

Honorable mention.
Joseph O'Keefe, 1289 Dean Street, Brooklyn, N.Y.

The jury consisted of Hazel Kirk Levins, Free Public Library, East Orange, N.J.; Marion L. Howe, New York Public Library; and Halsey W. Wilson and Stanley J. Kunitz of The Wilson Company.

The set of eight prize posters is being prepared for publication. Watch for further announcement next month.

WILSON PUBLICATIONS
mentioned in this issue

Ball. COMPOUNDING IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE. In press.

Firkins. INDEX TO SHORT STORIES. In preparation. On the service basis.

Kunitz and Haycraft. JUNIOR BOOK OF AUTHORS. il. xv,400p. $3.25 postpaid.

Summers. DICTATORSHIPS vs. DEMOCRACIES: 1938 (Supplement to Anglo-American Agreement, Reference Shelf) 109p. 75c postpaid.

Essay and General Literature Index

The 1938 annual volume of the Index is now published and should be ready for distribution in a few days. Listed below are a few of the titles included in the new material indexed for the cumulated volume:

Britt, A. Great Indian chiefs. 1938 McGraw
Cole, G. D. H. Persons and periods. 1938 Macmillan
De Kruif, P. H. Fight for life. 1938 Harcourt
Donnelly, F. P. Literature the leading educator. 1938 Longmans
Empson, W. English pastoral poetry. 1938 Norton
English association, London. Essays and studies by members of the Association, v.23. 1938 Oxford
Essay annual, 1938. 1938 Appleton-Century
Firth, Sir C. H. Essays, historical and literary. 1938 Oxford
Geiser, S. W. Naturalists of the frontier. 1937 Southern Methodist Univ.
Mackail, J. W. Studies in humanism. 1938 Longmans
Royal society of literature of the United Kingdom, London. Essays by divers hands, being the transactions of the Society, n.s. v.16. 1937 Oxford
Seventeenth century studies presented to Sir Herbert Grierson. 1938 Oxford
Valery, P. Variety: second series. 1938 Harcourt
Wilson, E. Triple thinkers. 1938 Harcourt

Calendar of Cumulations
In Preparation

AGRICULTURAL INDEX. 1938 annual volume. Ready in March

ART INDEX. 3-year volume, October 1935-September 1938. Ready this month

BIBLIOGRAPHIC INDEX. 1938 annual volume. Ready this month

BOOK REVIEW DIGEST. 1938 annual volume. Ready in March or early April. (NOTE: the 1938 annual volume takes the place of the monthly issue for February 1939—in order to include reviews of all books published in 1938. *No separate monthly issue is published in February.*)

CUMULATIVE BOOK INDEX. 1938 annual volume. Ready in February

ESSAY & GENERAL LITERATURE INDEX. 1938 annual volume. Ready this month

INDUSTRIAL ARTS INDEX. 1938 annual volume. Ready in March

LIBRARY LITERATURE. 1938 annual volume. Ready in February

VERTICAL FILE SERVICE. 1938 annual volume. Ready in February

Watch this space each month for latest information on cumulated volumes, supplements, and schedules of publication of Wilson indexes and catalogs.

Thank You Note

More on the recent article on Halsey W. Wilson and The Wilson Company which appeared in the *New Yorker*. . . A librarian writes:

"We librarians enjoyed the article on H. W. Wilson in the *New Yorker*. Does he know that most librarians make a little prayer of thanks every night for The H. W. Wilson Company? It is run so efficiently and saves us all so much drudgery."

The H. W. Wilson Company thanks you, and wishes you all a very happy New Year.

—THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER

(*Continued from page 325*)

camera panned across to the prison corridor where the guard was heard asking the prisoner if he wanted some supper. Ford replied and then, after a moment, "Cut" said the director and we all breathed easily again.

The take seemed perfect to us except that we couldn't understand why the voices of the actors were so soft. We later found out that the volume of tone is mechanically fixed by the sound recorder. But to Mr. Howard, the director, the scene evidently was not right for it was taken and retaken until even now, days later, the "country cousins of mine" tune is still resounding in our head. At least a dozen times while we were there the scene was remade with minor variations, either of expression by the actors or of changes in the lines. For instance Mr. Ford was asked to change the word "drink" to "glass" because the director said it came out of the sound playback like the word "dream." It sounded like "drink" to us, but then we have only a human ear.

Thoughts to take away: We wish that all movie-struck youngsters could see the bored, beaten face of Wallace Ford as he sat quietly on that little prison cot, hot lights streaming over him, his strained eyes blinking continuously as he repeated those same monotonous sentences endlessly hour after hour while the stares of the company played pitilessly over him. We venture to say it would not only deplete the ranks of potential film actors—a sad thing for the future of the film business—but would divorce the word "glamour" from the words screen actor.

We wish too that all of you could have seen the care, the work, the agony of endeavor which goes into such a scene as we witnessed in the making. It will probably play less than a minute on the screen, yet it required hours to get the lights set in order to cast exactly the right shadows over the actors' faces. Behind all this consider the weeks and weeks required to complete the research for this little set of a prison in Ohio, accurate to the buttons on the guard's uniform. This scene will have many cuts interspersed, close ups of the guard speaking, the prisoner singing and Wallace Ford playing his harmonica, views of the prison corridor, etc. And all these skilled technicians laboring for these hours just to create a minute's entertainment for the public. It is enough to give us a new conception of the whole art of the films.

The following is a list of current and forthcoming films made from published sources.

(*When title for book and motion picture varies, title of film is given in parentheses.*)

Current Releases

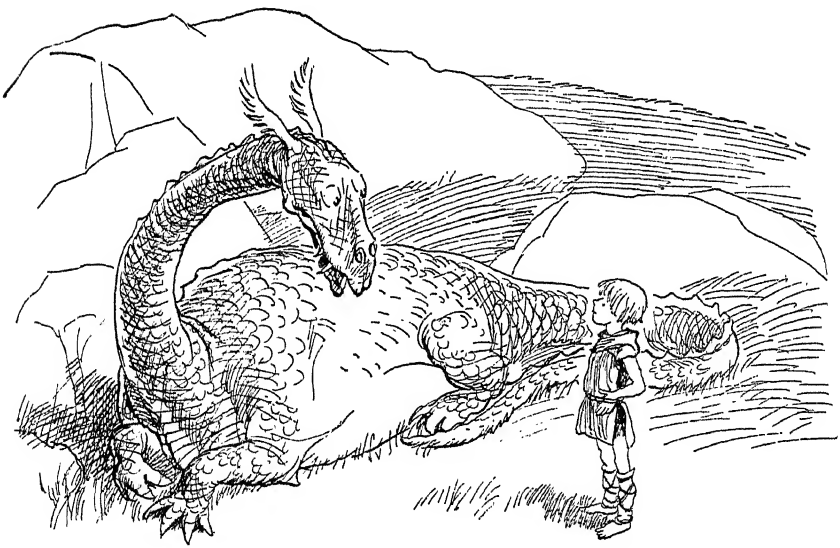
whistle [play]
Brand, Max Young Dr Kildare [short story]
Brieux, Eugene Damaged goods (Marriage forbidden) [play]
Brinig, Myron The sisters
Brush, Katharine Listen, darling
Chekhov, Anton The bear [play]
Cotterell, Dorothy Wilderness orphan (Wild innocence) [short story]
Cronin, A. J. The citadel
Deval, Jacques Say it in French [play]
Ferguson, W. B. N. Man with 100 faces
Gorky, Maxim My childhood (Childhood of Maxim Gorky) [autobiography]
Guitry, Sacha Le roman d'un tricheur (Story of a cheat)
Hackett, Albert and Goodrich, Frances Thanks for the memory [play]
Haviland-Taylor, Katharine Failure (A man to remember)
Jones, H. Bedford and Browne, Barton Garden of the moon [short story]
Kaufman, George S. and Hart, Moss You can't take it with you [play]
Keene, Carolyn Nancy Drew books (Nancy Drew, reporter)
Kendrick, Baynard Last express
Kessel, Joseph L'equipage
Kyne, Peter B. Valley of the giants
Lafitte, Paul Rothchild
Latimer, Jonathan The dead don't care (Last warning)
Leoncavallo, Ruggiero I Pagliacci (A clown must laugh) [opera]
McConville, Bernard Border G-man [short story]
McNeile, H. C. (Sapper) Challenge (Bulldog Drummond in Africa)
——The final count (Arrest Bulldog Drummond)
Maugham, Somerset Vessel of wrath (The beachcomber) [short story]
Milholland, Ray Submarine patrol
Millhauser, Bertram and Dix, Beulah The sucker (They made me a criminal)
Monks, John Jr and Finklehoffe, Fred F. Brother rat [play]
Morand, Paul La mort du Cygne (Ballerina)
Mulford, Clarence E. The frontiersman
North, Carrington and Miles, William Among those present (Headleys at home) [play]
Peck, George W. Stories (Peck's bad boy with the circus)
Pinski, David Yankel der Schmidt (The singing blacksmith) [play]
Reynolds, Quentin West side miracle (Secrets of a nurse) [short short story]
Shaw, George Bernard Pygmalion [play]
Smith, Paul Gerard Just around the corner
White, Ethel Lina The wheel spins (Lady vanishes)
Wiley, Hugh James Lee Wong stories (Mr. Wong, detective)
Willoughby, Barrett Spawn of the north
Winter, Keith Shining hour [play]
Wolf, Fredrich Professor Mamlock [play]
Woods, Madeline Slander house
Wylie, I. A. R. The gay banditti (The young in heart)
——The road to Reno
Zweig, Stefan Marie Antoinette [biography]

In Production

Baum, Frank Stories (Wizard of Oz)
Brontë, Emily Wuthering Heights
Burnett, Frances Hodgson Little princess
Clemens, Samuel L. Huckleberry Finn
——Tom Sawyer, detective
Dickens, Charles A Christmas carol
Dumas, Alexandre The three musketeers
Foote, John Taintor Kentucky
Harding, Bertita Phantom crown (Juarez)
Haycox, Ernest Trouble shooter (Union Pacific)
Kipling, Rudyard Gunga Din [poem]
Mayer, Edwin Justus Exile express
Parkhill, Forbes Stand up and fight
Shelley, Mary W. Son of Frankenstein

READERS' CHOICE
of
BEST BOOKS

A Monthly Selection



From *Reluctant Dragon,* by Kenneth Grahame (Holiday House)

ASK YOUR LIBRARY FOR THESE BOOKS

JANUARY 1939

Antonina Vallentin

Author of "Leonardo da Vinci"

BEFORE Hitler's symbolic burning of the books the rosters of culturally fertile Germany bore the names of distinguished men of letters, actors, painters, politicians, and journalists. That of Antonina Vallentin, foreign correspondent and women of enviable cosmopolitanism (in the finest sense of the word), was among them.

Antonina Vallentin was born in Poland in 1893. At an early age she was schooled in English, French, German, and Italian. For, unlike the Frenchman or the Englishman who may get along with none other than his own language, the native of a small country must have a certain linguistic versatility—if he contemplates invading the international scene. And in the role of political journalist this is what Antonina Vallentin proposed to do. During those precarious years bordering on the Great Collapse of 1929 she not only accumulated some valuable observations on Europe's diplomatic manœuvres but succeeded in gaining the confidence of those figures occupying the most strategic positions. It is likely that only by means of so strong a friendship with Gustav Stresemann, statesman and Romantic who "never outgrew the emotional world of his youth," could she have produced such creditable biography. Her study of *Stresemann* (first appearing in 1930 and republished in 1935 as *Frustration: or, Stresemann's Race With Death*) brought the acknowledgments of reviewers on both sides of the Atlantic.

In 1932, for the *International Labour Review,* she prepared a much-needed survey of "The Employment of Women Since the War." Admitting the scarcity of thoroughly reliable statistics, she arrived at the tentative conclusion that post-War changes in manual occupations for women have been qualitative rather than quantitative and have not measurably aggravated unemployment distress. For *L'Europe Nouvelle* (March 21, 1936) she commented significantly on German political philosophy, contending that the strength of the Third Reich lies "less in the personality of *der Führer,* so ferociously and so terribly ever-present, than in that total and disconcerting absence of all conviction, of all vestige of awareness in the men whose bureaucratic absolutism guarantees the functioning of the regime."

With the publication of *Poet in Exile: The Life of Heinrich Heine* (1934) it was clearly established that Mme. Vallentin had not only the thoroughness, literalism, and verve of a journalist, but a poetic sensitivity and a well-founded critical judgment. Her approach

ANTONINA VALLENTIN

was likened to that of Stefan Zweig, who not only capitalizes upon the unusual in the life-story but also re-endows the character with its original psychological subtlety.

The special merit of Mme Vallentin's penetrating study of *Leonardo da Vinci* (Book-of-the-Month Club choice for December 1938) is, perhaps, the fact that although she gives new importance to Leonardo the potential prophet of gas warfare, the machine age, submarines, lighter-than-air flying and the draftsman of the first housing plan (he advocated redistributing Milan's masses who "lived crowded together filling the air with stench and spreading sickness, filth, and death"), she in no way impoverishes Leonardo the painter; and it is, of course, with this aspect of his genius that a biographer should remain most intently occupied. Mme. Vallentin's only sizable shortcoming, according to a few of her critics, is her tendency to over-season her subject with "fine writing."

Antonina Vallentin is the wife of Julien Luchaire, French historian, dramatist, and civil servant, and although she spends much of her time moving back and forth across the map of Central Europe—whether to ferret out material in libraries and museums or merely to refresh her memory of life in its various capitals—it is in the "faded and urbane surroundings" of their Parisian home that her literary energies are directed toward the making of a real contribution to contemporary French culture.

READERS' CHOICE OF BEST BOOKS

The *Readers' Choice of Best Books* is a selected list of the more popular books likely to be included in the annual supplements to the Standard Catalog for Public Libraries, Standard Catalog for High School Libraries and Children's Catalog. All selections are made with the aid of recognized authorities and readers' advisors.

All books in the *Readers' Choice of Best Books* are included in the longer list of titles (immediately following this section) for which sets of printed catalog cards are available from The H. W. Wilson Company.

The *Reader's Choice of Best Books* is reprinted monthly, except July and August, and sold to libraries for distribution. When ordered for monthly delivery from the beginning date of the order to the close of the Season with the June issue, the prices are:— 100 copies $1. per month; 50 copies, 60c per month; 25 copies 35c per month; 10 copies 15c per month; sample copy free. Send all orders to The H. W. Wilson Company, 950 University Avenue, New York City.

FICTION

BASSETT, SARA WARE, 1872-
New England born. Doubleday 1938 $2

"Abel Warren, nearly eighty and a respected citizen of his little Cape Cod village, is the chief character. There is some bond not understood by the villagers between Abel and Mary Carver, a woman of Abel's own generation. When young Anne Armitage came to Belleport the mystery was solved." Book rev. digest

"A rather sweet story for readers of light fiction." Bkl.

HUTCHINSON, RAY CORYTON, 1907-
Testament; a novel. Farrar 1938 $3

"The story of Count Anton Scheffler, a Russian, during the World war and after it. Scheffler, gentle, kindly, and humane, was badly wounded and captured by the Austrians early in the war. In prison he met Captain Otraveskov and the two immediately became friends. It is Otraveskov who is the narrator, and his story is of both their lives." Book rev. digest

For the cultivated reader

KAYE-SMITH, SHEILA
Valiant woman; a novel. Harper 1938 $2.50

In this novel "depicting life in a Sussex village, the author weaves together the stories of two families of the landed gentry, of the villagers whose lives are deeply rooted in the soil, and of the outsiders who have come to live in the recently developed Trulilows estates." Baldwin

"It is a tender, lovely, warm-hearted book, smacking, in its direct Saxon outspokenness, of the earlier England that was Chaucer's and, in its joyousness, of the England that was not only Chaucer's but Shakespeare's." N.Y. Times

MILLER, MRS. MAY (MERRILL)
First the blade. Knopf 1938 $3

"Its first half is Civil War, its second half pioneer, or at least frontier, since it deals with English-speaking Americans in California. Missouri, a border state torn into factions, where the Civil War was a guerilla affair . . . is the scene of the historical half. The story is of an engaging family of Southern sympathies, with a growing girl as heroine. All this is fresh and interesting material, told with charm, and a rich antiquarian background." Book-of-the-month club news

STEWART, GEORGE RIPPEY, 1895-
East of the giants; a novel. Holt 1938 $2.50

"In 1837 Judith Hingham, daughter of a New England sea captain, on a trip to California eloped with Juan, a dashing young Spanish ranch owner. In her new environment Judith developed into a vital, courageous woman, who quietly dominated the scene wherever she appeared." Book rev. digest

"Once it is under way it marches splendidly. For accurate background, for intelligent interpretation, for sheer story value, 'East of the Giants' earns high marks." Books (N.Y. Herald Tribune)

ABOUT PEOPLE

COOLIDGE, CALVIN, 1872-1933
White, William Allen, 1868-. Puritan in Babylon; the story of Calvin Coolidge. Macmillan 1938 $3.50

"William Allen White's long-awaited and happily-entitled biography of Calvin Coolidge will be found to meet one exacting

COOLIDGE, CALVIN—*Continued*

test—that of keenly sustained interest to New England readers to whom much of the story in its more intimate episodes is inevitably familiar. It is a vivid, at times a brilliant, piece of characterization." Springfield Republican

DICKINSON, EMILY, 1830-1886

Whicher, George Frisbie, 1889-. This was a poet; a critical biography of Emily Dickinson. Scribner 1938 $3

"The first half of this book (is) a study of the village where she lived, her education, her important friendships with the several men whom she regarded as her tutors, and her years of seclusion when the greater part of her poetry was written, though not published." (Preface) The second part of the book is a critical estimate of her work

"The most careful study of perhaps the one woman of whom it can be said without qualification, 'This Was a Poet.'" Commonweal

LAFAYETTE, MARIE JOSEPH PAUL ROCH YVES GILBERT DE MOTIER, MARQUIS DE, 1757-1834

Woodward, William E. 1874-. Lafayette. Farrar 1938 $3.50

In this biography of Lafayette particular stress is laid upon his part in the French revolution and upon later events not so well known to Americans

"W. E. Woodward's shrewdly appraising biography 'Lafayette' at last gives us a picture of his subject that makes sense. Divesting the legend of all its emotional cockades, he yet leaves us with a man we can legitimately like and honor without having to place him on any impossible pedastal." New Yorker

LEONARDO DA VINCI, 1452-1519

Vallentin, Antonina, 1893-. Leonardo da Vinci; the tragic pursuit of perfection; tr. by E. W. Dickes. Viking 1938 $3.75

"Every biography of Leonardo has had to be a picture of his times. The distinction of this new one is that they are brilliantly depicted, and that Leonardo's long life of frustrations and morbidities, as well as successes and tireless optimism in discovery, is so carefully and interestingly traced. Most of all, however, is the new emphasis the author has set upon the creative energy of Leonardo as an inventor in science, both pure and applied." Book-of-the-month club news

LOUIS. XIV, KING OF FRANCE, 1638-1715

Belloc, Hilaire, 1870-. Louis XIV. Harper 1938 $3.75

"Mr. Belloc's study of Louis XIV presents his reign as the most successful example of active monarchy in modern Europe. He discusses it in the light of modern problems of kingship and government." Hunting

SANGER, MRS MARGARET (HIGGINS) 1883-

Margaret Sanger; an autobiography. Norton 1938 $3.50

Autobiography of the American woman who fought for the legalization of birth control and for better health conditions for women

"Brightly and very humanly written, it covers an amazing amount of ground and involves hundreds of personalities." New Yorker

SULLIVAN, MARK, 1874-

Education of an American. Doubleday 1938 $3.50

Autobiography of the New York Herald Tribune's political columnist, who is also the author of "Our times." It is, too, a picture of the past half-century in the United States

"His real achievement in this book is the picture of an American country family late in the nineteenth century. Perhaps it is too exact, too little sensational, in brief too true, to be largely successful, but, whether the rising generation believes it or not, it is a grand job and an important one, if America is important." Books (N.Y. Herald Tribune)

VICTORIA, QUEEN OF GREAT BRITAIN, 1819-1901

Benson, Edward Frederic, 1867-. Queen Victoria's daughters. Appleton-Century 1938 $3

The lives of Queen Victoria and of her five daughters, whose international marriages involved them with events in half the countries of modern Europe

"This is a volume of kindly particulars, of small girls whose mother was a Queen and whose father saw to their upbringing with a thoroughly Germanic conscientiousness. . . Although it is too informal and unpretentious to rank as major biography, this is a book which will appeal to many readers, particularly older ones whose memories will inevitably lend it a certain charm." Book-of-the-month club news

THE ARTS

PACH, WALTER, 1883-

Queer thing, painting; forty years in the world of art. Harper 1938 $4

Contents: "Queer thing, painting"; Mr Chase, Robert Henri, John Sloan; Albert P. Ryder, Thomas Eakins; J. Pierpont Morgan; Moriye Ogihara; Charles Loeser, Egisto Fabbri; Claude Monet; Pierre-Auguste Renoir; Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, Georges Braque; Jean Le Roy; The three brothers: Raymond Duchamp-Villon, Jacques Villon, and Marcel Duchamp; Odilon Redon; Constantin Brancusi, Raoul Dufy; Segonzac, Léger, Gleizes, De La Fresnaye; Simonne; Armory show; John Quinn, John Butler Yeats, Victor Maurel; After the armory show; Maurice Prendergast; The independents; Georges Rouault; Ambroise Vollard; Some great collectors;

Roger Fry, Julius Meier-Graefe, Elie Faure; Josef Strzygowski, Bernard Berenson; Some art dealers; Mexico: Jose Clemente Orozco, Diego Rivera; Gino Severini, Andre Derain, Amédée De La Patellière; William R. Valentiner, Gisela M. A. Richter, Bryson Burroughs; Latter-day America, Kenneth Hayes Miller, A. S. Baylinson; Epilogue by Wilhelm Busch

"Not a dull book, but one, instead, that is of quietly absorbing interest throughout; mellow, with winnowed wisdom; gentle but substantial and often very illuminating in its expansive mood of reminiscence." N.Y. Times

RAWSON, MRS MARION (NICHOLL) 1878-
Candleday art; il. by the author. Dutton 1938 $5

Chapters on early American arts and crafts, including carving, sculpture, pottery, painting, glass art and architecture. Illustrated with line drawings in the text by the author

"The quaint interest and sound information of Mrs. Rawson's work need no introduction to a public which has come to look eagerly for each of her delightful excursions into American folk-ways; this latest volume deserves its sure welcome." N.Y. Times

BIBLE

BIBLE. NEW TESTAMENT
The great story, from the authorized King James version of the Bible. Harcourt 1938 $2

"The story of Christ's life told in a continuous story in the words of the King James version, selected from the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, and illustrated with fine reproductions in color of fifteen famous paintings." Horn book

"The notable feature of this volume is the illustrations—a score or more full-page pictures in full color by the greatest painters of all time, magnificently reproduced." Christian century

CHILD STUDY

DIXON, CLARICE MADELEINE
High, wide and deep; discovering the preschool child. Day 1938 $3

"A book of interest to intelligent mothers of young children and to teachers in nursery schools. Describes one summer's experiences with a preschool group, with many concrete examples of children's activities." Wis. bul.

CONSUMER'S GUIDES

DANA, MARGARET
Behind the label; a guide to intelligent buying. Little 1938 $2

Contents: Consumer wants to know; Wool; Silk; Linen and cotton; Rayon; Weaves and finishes; Fashion racket; Sizes; If you must shop for a man; Silk stockings; Furs; In praise of good sleep; Fabrics for warmth and coolness; Wear and wear out; End of blind buying; Federal trade commission

PALMER, DEWEY H. AND CROOKS, LAURENCE E.
Millions on wheels; how to buy, drive, and save money on your automobile. Vanguard 1938 $2.50

"A specific and clear survey of the whole business of owning a car, from an inspection prior to purchase right on down the line, including the use of low versus high premium fuels, tires, safe driving, and all the rest, examined from the point of view of the consumer." Book-of-the-month club news

FAR PLACES

LEIGH, WILLIAM ROBINSON, 1866-
Frontiers of enchantment; an artist's adventures in Africa. Simon & Schuster 1938 $3

Study of travel in Africa by a painter who accompanied the Carl Akeley expedition of 1926, in order to make paintings and drawings of African fauna and flora. Illustrated with many drawings in black and white

"'Frontiers of Enchantment' is a find and can scarcely fail to attract and please many home-staying adventurers in far lands. . . The country and the creatures come out fresh, vivid and vital in [this] spontaneous description." Springfield Republican

LITTLEPAGE, JOHN D.
In search of Soviet gold, by J. D. Littlepage and Demaree Bess. Harcourt 1938 $2.75

"Account of the life and work of an American mining engineer during the years 1928 to 1937 when he was engaged in an attempt to increase the gold production of Soviet Russia. His story was told to Demaree Bess, for several years Moscow correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor." Book rev. digest

"Full of picturesque material, accounts of huge enterprises operated by the police, of the 'free exiles,' of the swarming labor spies, of the attitudes of the industrialists, etc. It is written without grudge or bias and is an illuminating volume." Book-of-the-month club news

MORTON, HENRY CANOVA VOLLAM, 1892-
Through lands of the Bible. . . Dodd 1938 $3

The travels of the author beginning at Alexandretta, in Syria, and continuing by way of Aleppo to Bagdad, Babylon, and

MORTON, H. C. V.—*Continued*

Ur of the Chaldees. The author then takes you through Palestine to Egypt. The book ends with a description of Apostolic sites in Rome, where the author spent Easter week

SHACKLETON, EDWARD ARTHUR ALEXANDER

Arctic journeys; the story of the Oxford University Ellesmere land expedition, 1934-5; with a preface by the Rt. Hon. the Lord Tweedsmuir. Farrar 1938 $3.50

"Story of the expedition, made up of young men and an experienced sergeant of the Canadian mounted police, which spent a winter inside the Arctic circle. Surveying Ellesmere land in northern Greenland and geological study were the purposes of the expedition. Appendixes summarize the scientific work." Bkl.

"For the general reader, 'Arctic Journeys' is one of the most enjoyable books by an explorer that has appeared in recent years, for the author manages to make it jolly without being offensive, to be gay without being facetious." Spectator

FORESTS

DU PUY, WILLIAM ATHERTON, 1876-

Nation's forests; with an introduction by F. A. Silcox. Macmillan 1938 $3

Contents: Everyman's forest; When the lumberman came; Nature heals her wounds; Which trees to cut; Planting forests; Sustained yield; Erosion control; Fire prevention; Recreation; Wild animals in the forest; Range management; Wilderness areas; Products of wood; State and private forestry

"Next to the detailed explanation of the different kinds of conservation being carried on by the Federal Government, two of the text's most interesting features are the chapters on the wild animals of the forests and on the wilderness districts." N.Y. Times

GUARDIANS OF SOCIETY

LAWES, LEWIS EDWARD, 1883-

Invisible stripes. Farrar 1938 $2.50

The warden of Sing Sing prison looks at the world from which the criminal comes and into which he is released or paroled. His reason for the return of criminals to prison for second, third and fourth times is that "the prisoner, on his discharge from prison, is conscious of invisible stripes fastened upon him by tradition and prejudice"

"This book is not only challenging and informative. It aids and stimulates the sense of responsibility and the hope of improvement. It is a book which every American should read." N.Y. Times

RAK, MRS MARY (KIDDER) 1879-

Border patrol. Houghton 1938 $2.75

"An account of the work of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service along the border between Mexico and Arizona, New Mexico and western Texas. Describes the work and training of this government service and tells many interesting stories based on personal interviews." Wis. bul.

HISTORY

ORTON, WILLIAM AYLOTT, 1889-

Twenty years' armistice, 1918-1938. . . Farrar 1938 $2.50

"A survey of the events that have determined the course of world history from the Treaty of Versailles in 1918 to the present, and a timely study, in close focus, of the tremendous events of the past year in the significance of Spain, Austria and Czechoslovakia and of the Rome-Berlin axis." Baldwin

"Professor Orton's volume deserves a large public, not only because it is the first such study to appear after the Munich truce but also because it contains a sagacious and well-phrased interpretation of the post-war period." Sat. rev. of lit.

YOUNG, ARTHUR MORGAN, 1874-

Imperial Japan, 1926-1938. Morrow 1938 $3

"This sequel to the author's 'Japan in recent times, 1912-1926' carries the story of the Japanese empire from the accession of the present sovereign to the outbreak of the war with China. The author has been for many years editor of the 'Japan chronicle', the only British-owned newspaper in Japan." Book rev. digest

"Throughout the book, the author seems to have an intimate knowledge of things Japanese. Beneath the surface of accusation and criticism, there are warm sympathy and understanding, and also a tone of deep personal disappointment. This mixture of keen observation and emotional reaction makes the book a document of both human and historic importance." New republic

HOBBIES AND JOBS

HENNEY, KEITH, 1896-

Color photography for the amateur. (Whittlesey house publications) McGraw 1938 $3.50

Contents: Color and color processes; Films and filters; Making transparencies; Making separation negatives; Color printing processes

"Practical instructions based on the technical principles involved. Illustrations in full colour, half-tones and diagrams." Ontario library review

LEMOS, JOHN T.
New ideas in woodcraft. Bridgman 1938 $2

Partial contents: Tools and materials; How to begin; The coping saw; Methods of decorating wood; Flower garden sticks; Coat hangers; Door stops; Paper holder; Foot stools; Carving boxes; Chip carving; Cut outs; Buckles and buttons; Filing and carving; Decorating wooden plates and bowls; Bookends; Color finishes; Pointers on color

LEYSON, BURR W.
Aeronautical occupations for boys; foreword by C. R. Smith. Dutton 1938 $2

This book is for those who have an interest in aviation as a career. It covers the field of major occupations in aviation, from the various types of pilots to the mechanical, engineering, field and radio divisions of the industry. There are careful details as to the training required for each job, where and how it may be obtained and at what cost, the average pay in each division of the work and the opportunities they present for promotion

HUMOR

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Grandma called it carnal. Simon & Schuster 1938 $2

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STREETER, EDWARD, 1891-
Daily except Sunday; or, What every commuter should know; il. by Gluyas Williams. Simon & Schuster 1938 $1.25

Contents: In explanation; Commuting begins at home; Exodus; Our platform; Friends, and how to lose them; En route; Tickets and their takers; Emergencies; Eventide

LITERATURE

JEFFERS, ROBINSON, 1887-
Selected poetry. Random house 1938 $3.50

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Enjoyment of literature. Simon & Schuster 1938 $3.75

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Words on wings; the story of communication; il. by James MacDonald. Farrar 1938 $1.75

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A view is given in each chapter of the formulation and nature of a theory, of the effects of the idea on the world, and an informal sketch of the theorist himself. Contents: Copernicus; Hutton; Dalton; Lavoisier; Rumford; Huygens; Malthus; Schwann; Darwin; Marx; Pasteur; Freud; Chamberlin; Boas; Einstein

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Dancing Tom; pictures by Grace Paull. Macmillan 1938 $1

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GRAHAME, KENNETH, 1859-1932

Reluctant dragon; il. by E. H. Shepard. Holiday 1938 $1.25

"This inimitable story of the boy who knew about dragons and was not surprised to find one up on the Downs was first published as a chapter in 'Dream days.'" A. C. Moore

HANDFORTH, THOMAS, 1897-

Mei Li. Doubleday 1938 $2

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"This gay, brief story, with its really wonderful big black and white drawings, will give children a wealth of clear, simple impressions of traditional Chinese life. For me, this is the most completely original and artistic picture book of the year." Sat. rev. of lit.

LATHROP, DOROTHY PULIS, 1891-

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Scarlet oak; il. by E. O. Jones. Macmillan 1938 $2

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"Cornelia Meigs never disappoints us in her books, for first of all she writes a capital story well; secondly, she brings to her writing a fine appreciation of what young people like; thirdly, her books are sound all the way through and, where historical scenes and events are part of the story, they are faithfully drawn and accurately set down. 'The Scarlet Oak' has all these qualities and is another in her long list of fine tales with American backgrounds." Christian science monitor

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h Standard Catalog for High School Libraries

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Anderson, J. The American theatre h p
Angeli, Mrs Marguerite De. See De Angeli, Mrs Marguerite
Aronson, J. Encyclopedia of furniture p
Asbjørnsen, P. C. and Moe, J. E. East of the sun and west of the moon c
Ascoli, M. and Feiler, A. Fascism for whom? p
Auden, W. H. ed. See Oxford book of light verse
Baer, M. E. Wonders of water c h
Barringer, Mrs M. Four and Lena c
Bassett, S. W. New England born p
Beamish, H. V. Your puppy and how to train him h p
Beaumont, C. W. Puppets and the puppet stage h p
Becker, Mrs M. L. ed. Golden tales of Canada h p
Belloc, H. Louis XIV p
Bemelmans, L. Life class p
Benét, W. R. and Pearson, N. H. eds. See Oxford anthology of American literature
Benson, E. F. Queen Victoria's daughters p
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Bishop, Mrs C. H. Five Chinese brothers c
Black, Mrs I. S. Hamlet: a cocker spaniel c
Boas, F. ed. General anthropology p
Bond, F. F. How to write and sell nonfiction p
Borland, H. G. Wapiti Pete c h
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